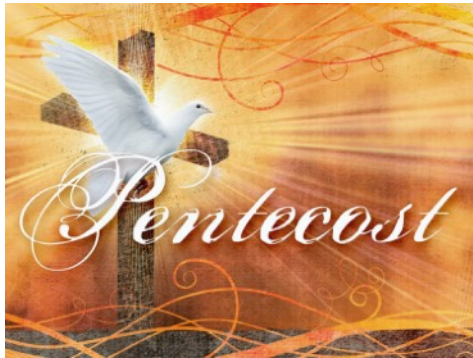


Tidings of Peace



June 2023



Pentecost Season Themes

Worship in June

Worship with Holy Communion at 8:30

In person/Livestream Worship at 9:30 am

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

June 4

Trinity Sunday

Confirmation Sunday

Go And Make Disciples

Pastor Peter Preaching

June 11

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well

Pastor Peter Preaching

June 18

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

*Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers,
cast out demons*

Pastor Peter Preaching

June 25

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Those who lose their life will find it

Pastor Peter Preaching

Pastor's Page

A congregational meeting has been scheduled for June 18th to vote on Prince of Peace becoming a Reconciling in Christ Congregation. Our RIC core team has been meeting weekly since January preparing us for this meeting. Before the meeting a welcoming statement, that intentionally welcomes the LGBTQIA+ community, will be distributed to the congregation. The meeting's one agenda item will be for the congregation to approve the welcoming statement. If it passes, we will become a Reconciling in Christ Congregation. It is that simple.

Some of you have asked what will change if the congregation says yes. My answer, to be perfectly honest, is that not much. As many of you have said, Prince of Peace is already a welcoming congregation, and passing this statement will not suddenly make us more hospitable. But the congregational vote will be an intentional statement to the LGBTQIA+ community that Prince of Peace is safe. We will name being an RIC congregation on our website, our social media, our bulletin, our newsletter, and any other official publication. In this respect, this vote makes all the difference to our congregation. Churches and faith communities have been some of the least welcoming institutions to this community. This is why the LGBTQIA+ community is so careful in determining where to worship.

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

Deadline for the July issue is Sunday, June 25

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, Church Musician
Geeta Telang, Office Manager
Dorothy Safranek, Financial Secretary

Congregational Council

Tim Gjenvick (President)
Joan New (Vice President)
Jessica Clarke
Mary Ellen Glickson
David Jeedi
Christian Oehm
Dorothy Safranek
Wendy Schutzer
Con Sweeney
Claudia Thompson
David New, Secretary (non-voting)

WHAM Juneteenth Worship

On Thursday June 15th the Windsor Hightstown Area Ministerium will sponsor its annual Juneteenth worship at St. James AME Church in Hightstown. Juneteenth began in Texas when word of the Emancipation Proclamation finally reached slaves in Texas, two years after President Lincoln's declaration. The WHAM Juneteenth service is an important opportunity to renew our commitment to racial justice, and also to help celebrate with our interfaith communities to whom this day is a major celebration. Join us at St. James on the 15th at 7:00pm.

Pastor's Page Continued

But what if the welcoming statement is not approved, or what if it is approved by a simple majority? What happens then? Well, the work will continue.

Obviously we cannot promote being a RIC congregation, but our work will not suddenly end. Prince of Peace will continue to listen and learn from each other as we continue to do gospel work.

We will continue being hospitable so our welcome is not just an empty phrase, but an intentional commitment to be the people Christ calls.

I trust our vote on June 18th will be approved, but regardless, we will continue being the church, a church committed not to gatekeeping, but to radical welcome.

Confirmation Sunday

Confirmation Sunday is Holy Trinity Sunday, June 4th. Prince of Peace has three confirmands this year. Emma Druckenbrod, Andrew Grimm, and Diana Jorgensen. Please help us celebrate with our young people and their families.

Book Group

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

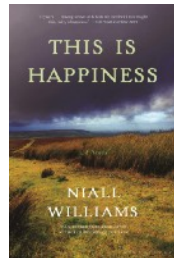
Please note: We will now be meeting at 1 pm. Please bring your lunch and/or a snack for others to share.

Thursday, June 8, at 1 p.m.

In the church lounge

This is Happiness by Niall Williams

This beautiful, lyrical novel by Irish writer Niall Williams is a change of pace for our book club. The narrator is 78-year old Noe Crowe, who



tells the story of the spring and summer he spent with his grandparents in a fictitious Irish village back in 1958 when he was 17. It's a story about electricity coming to rural Ireland, but it is also a story about the intensity of young love and the significance of friendship, grandparents, Irish families, and life in the countryside.

Thursday, July 13, at 1 p.m. in the church lounge

Diamond Eye by Kate Quinn



This is the remarkable story of how a Ukrainian history student and young mother becomes a deadly WWII sniper known as "Lady Death." Mila Pavilchenko

must balance her role as lethal Nazi hunter with her responsibility to her young son. After her 300th kill makes her a national heroine, she is sent to Washington on a goodwill tour where a friendship with Eleanor Roosevelt as well as an old enemy from the past awaits her.

Peace and Cherry Tree Gardens

Looking for a new way to volunteer without a major commitment of time? Like to be outdoors? Free either Tuesday and/or Friday mornings anytime from 9-11?

If so, the gardeners could use some new volunteers as some of our crew is moving or has time conflicts this year. We've already harvested lettuce and collard greens and parsley three times this season, and more will be coming soon! No experience necessary!

Even if you can't get down on the ground for planting and weeding, there are plants you can harvest while standing part of the season and there is weighing and labeling to do at the picnic table now through the fall. Sometimes there are seeds to be planted in starter pots as well! Only available late mornings? We can always use help delivering the produce (and maybe donations left in bins) to St. Barts for their 11 am distribution on Fridays.

Interested? Contact Nancy Reyes with any questions or just show up on a good weather day and join in the fun! Hope to see you soon!

Parish Care News — June 2023

Sharing our POP Care with All

God's Blessings to our Confirmands – Emma Druckenbrod, Andrew Grimm and Diana Jorgensen.

We remembered and celebrated the lives of Robert (Bob) Reiersen on April 29, 2023 and Joe Gonzalez on May 24, 2023.
Prayers for their families and friends.

Our usual ongoing monthly projects continue.

Monthly mailings to families welcoming a new family member and families who have lost a loved one continue. We reach out to families that have welcomed a new child - newborn to 3 yr. old and to families that have lost a loved one. If you know a family to include, please contact us.

Care Notes, Prayer cards and knitted prayer squares are in the breezeway. Please take and share.

Rides around the area.

As we are getting out and about more, a few rides are needed. If you can assist with some transportation to Sunday church services please let me know.

Congratulations to all our Graduates of 2023
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. We like to keep in touch as you move on to new adventures.

Organizing and delivering Greeting Cards

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.

Join us on Friday June 9, 2023 from 10 AM to noon to sort and prepare cards for distribution. We will be using the double room in the education wing.

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

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

Watch for some over the summer POP parish care projects.

Martha Winder maw14jpw@aol.com

Racial Justice Events and Opportunities

Special Events This Month

Saturday, June 3 - Come to POP at 10 am and bring your family (middle or HS and up) and friends! Learn about African American History and Culture in Princeton as Shirley Satterfield gives more info than you can imagine based on the 29 Black History Heritage Plaques that she and the Witherspoon-Jackson Historical and Cultural Society have started posting around town. Free Presentation but donations are welcome (suggested \$10/person).

Sunday, June 11- Join others from POP for the drive to South Jersey for the Nanticoke-Lenni Lenape Annual PowWow. This year the tribe has gotten enough donations from supporters to welcome anyone and everyone for no admission. To celebrate their culture and their blessings over the past year, the PowWow includes dance exhibitions, drumming, and competitions of various types from Lenape and other tribes, including visitors from tribes in other parts of the country. Along with learning about their traditions, you'll have the opportunity to buy native food such as frybread and Indian Tacos. Native vendors will also have clothing and crafts for sale. Attendees are invited to speak to performers about their regalia and their traditions. In addition, there will be a car show on the same property for car lovers to enjoy. This is a great way to spend a day outdoors while learning about our indigenous neighbors.

Juneteenth - Stay Tuned for info on nearby events to commemorate this the day the enslaved workers in Texas finally found out about the Emancipation Proclamation, 1 ½ years after the rest of the country had been freed.

Opportunities for Individuals to Work toward Racial and Social Justice

- Summer Reading Made Easy! Spend a little while browsing in the Racial Justice Lending Library (on bookshelf in lounge near the sanctuary) and borrow a book for yourself and/or your children...There's LOTS to learn, from fiction or nonfiction, banned books or popular reads on many different cultures and issues.
- Volunteer to help refugees from Afghanistan, Ukraine, and other countries in Mercer County and surrounding areas with donations of needed items or your time (once, once in a while, or on a regular basis) as a driver, companion, arts and crafts, tutor for English or Driver's License or more through I RISE...
- Advocate for Affordable Housing. Find out what your own municipality has done to meet the state's Affordable Housing requirements. If not on target, contact your leaders to ask why and to push for this ongoing need.
- Join POPs Racial Justice Team to share YOUR ideas for future team events and advocacy.

INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE or WANT TO JOIN THE MAILING LIST? Contact Nancy Reyes, leader of the Racial Justice Team at 609-273-1239 or nancyauerreyes@gmail.com

JUNETEENTH



Juneteenth is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans. Deriving its name from combining "June" and "nineteenth", it is celebrated on the anniversary of General Order No. 3, issued by Major General Gordon Granger on June 19, 1865, proclaiming freedom for slaves in Texas.

Former slaves in Galveston rejoiced after the order. One year later, on June 19, 1866, freedmen in Texas organized the first of what became annual commemorations of "Jubilee Day". Early celebrations were used as political rallies to give voting instructions to newly freed African Americans. Other independence observances occurred on January 1st or 4th.

In some cities, black people were barred from using public parks because of state-sponsored segregation of facilities. The day was first celebrated in Austin in 1867 under the auspices of the Freedmen's Bureau, and it had been listed on a "calendar of public events" by 1872. That year, black leaders in Texas raised \$1,000 for the purchase of 10 acres of land, today known as Houston's Emancipation Park, to celebrate Juneteenth. The Black community began using the word Juneteenth for Jubilee Day early in the 1890s.

In the early 20th century, economic and political forces led to a decline in Juneteenth celebrations. From 1890 to 1908, Texas and all former Confederate states passed new constitutions or amendments that effectively disenfranchised black people, excluding them from the political process. White-dominated state legislatures passed Jim Crow laws imposing second-class status. Gladys L. Knight writes the decline in celebration was in part because "upwardly mobile blacks ... were ashamed of their slave past and aspired to assimilate into mainstream culture. Younger generations of blacks, becoming further removed from slavery were occupied with school ... and other pursuits." Others who migrated to the Northern United States could not take time off or simply dropped the celebration.

The Great Depression forced many black people off farms and into the cities to find work, where they had difficulty taking the day off to celebrate. Juneteenth soon saw a revival as black people began tying their struggle to that of ending slavery. In Atlanta, some campaigners for equality wore Juneteenth buttons. During the 1968 Poor People's Campaign to Washington, DC, called by Rev. Ralph Abernathy, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference made June 19th the "Solidarity Day of the Poor People's Campaign". In the subsequent revival, large celebrations in Minneapolis and Milwaukee emerged, as well as across the Eastern United States. In 1979, the Texas Legislature made the occasion a state holiday. In the late 1980s, there were major celebrations of Juneteenth in California, Wisconsin, Illinois, Georgia, and Washington, D.C.

In 1996, the first federal legislation to recognize "Juneteenth Independence Day" was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1997, Congress recognized the day through Senate Joint Resolution 11 and House Joint Resolution 56.

In the 2000s and 2010s, activists continued a long process to push Congress towards official recognition of Juneteenth. By 2016, 45 states were recognizing the occasion. When it was officially made a federal holiday on June 17, 2021, it became one of five date-specific federal holidays along with New Year's Day, Independence Day, Veterans Day, and Christmas Day.



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>
