

Tidings of Peace



Worship in June

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



June 7
2nd Sunday after Pentecost
Pastor Peter Preaching

June 14
3rd Sunday after Pentecost
Pastor Peter Preaching

June 21
4th Sunday after Pentecost
"Jesus Giving Instructions to the Disciples"
Dr. Paul Rorem Preaching

June 28
5th Sunday after Pentecost
"Jesus Talks About Welcoming"
Rev Fred Schott Preaching

Doug and Megan Helvering's last day

June 2026

Celebrations!

June 12 – Cocktail Reception for Pastor Peter for clergy from the Mercer Cluster and WHAM (Windsor Hightstown Area Ministerium).

June 14 – Pastor Peter's last Sunday at Prince of Peace. Bishop Christa Compton will be with us to preside at the Thanksgiving at the Conclusion of a Call. Michelle and Mike Conk are planning a champagne Brunch for after worship (see the signup in the gathering area soon). There will be words of remembrance and toasts. If you have any pictures you would like to share, they can be dropped in this Google drive ([Pictures of Pastor Peter](#)) or physical pictures can be left in the office.

June 28 – A special fellowship with words of remembrance and toasts for Doug and Megan Helvering. Everyone is invited to bring a sweet or savory treat to share. If you have any pictures you would like to share, they can be dropped in this Google drive (Pictures of Doug or Megan) or physical pictures can be left in the office.

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 28th

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
Janis Haddock, Financial Secretary
Cheryl "Sherri" Daniels, Office Manager

Congregational Council

Joan New - President
Kathy Nowak - Vice President
Jessica Clarke
Michelle Conk
Ellen McBrearity
Beth Mitchell
Dorothy Safranek
Martin Rexroad
Dunja Saleh-Zaki
Wayne Dougherty
Con Sweeney
Claudia Thompson
David Herrington, Secretary (non-voting)

RAWTools at Prince of Peace June 7th

Since I beat a gun into my pectoral cross with Shane Clairborne at RAWTools Philly in 2023, I wanted to give Prince of Peace the same opportunity. I am excited that on my second to last Sunday, RAWTools Trenton will be coming to POP on Sunday morning. Pastor Erich from St. Bart's is the inspiration behind RAWTools Trenton and will be with us on the 7th. He will set up the forger and anvil outdoors. After church we all will have the experience of beating swords into plowshares. Join us in the parking lot June 7th!

June Food Donation for St. Bart's

Throughout the month of June we are continuing to collect Rice and Beans for St. Bart's. Please place your donation on the table in the narthex. If the church is closed, please leave your food offering in the bin outside the Community Wing entrance.

Piano Concert

Dr. Charles Frederick Frantz
Works by Bach, Schubert, and
Debussy

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
177 Princeton Hightown Road
Princeton Junction, NJ 08550
Sunday, June 21 4.00 P.M.

Free will offering

WHAM Coffee House, Sunday June 7, 2-4PM

Dutch Neck Presbyterian Church (154 South Mill Road in West Windsor) will host the Windsor Hightstown Area Ministerium lay leaders' annual coffee house. Drop in and join your neighbors for music, poetry, and conversation. Enjoy a friendly interfaith bake-off. If you are interested in attending and/or entering the bake-off, let me know or click on the following link. Please come and bring your friends!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B094BAAAA2BA1F58-64242438-wham>

Daniel Marrone Ordination

Daniel Marrone was a field education student at POP back in 2019-2020. He has his first pastoral call at The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit in Manahawkin. He will be ordained on June 13! Please consider attending!



*THE NEW JERSEY SYNOD COUNCIL
and
THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
On behalf of
THE NEW JERSEY SYNOD
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA*

*announce the
**SERVICE OF
ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION**
To the ministry of
WORD AND SACRAMENT
for
DANIEL F. MARRONE*

***Saturday, June 13, 2026
2:00 PM***

The Rev. Dr. Christa M. Compton, Presider and Preacher

***Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit**
333 North Main Street
Manahawkin, NJ 08050*

*The service will be live-streamed.
Rostered Ministers are invited to vest and process.
The color is red.*

Emanuel
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pride Month Events

- **June 5** - NJ Gay Men's Chorus performing with Philadelphia & NYC GMCs at Whitney Museum in NYC.
- **June 6** - Gran Festival Gay at Tequila House (284 Remsen Street) with DJ & Drag Performances.
- **June 8** - Middlesex County Pride Flag Raising.
- **June 12** - Marriage Equality Celebration at State Theatre.
- **June 13** - Franklin Pride with performances by NJ Gay Men's Chorus & Fogo Azul.
- **June 27** - LGBTQ+ information fair, Gender-affirming clothing swap, & HIV testing at Emanuel. Pride march and celebration with drag performances to follow.
- **June 28** - Pride Worship Service at Emanuel. Coffee hour to follow.

**Prince of Peace
Reconciling in Christ Tidings Article
June 2026**

Upcoming Reconciling in Christ Activities

The Reconciling in Christ team is happy to announce the following activities for the coming summer:

Princeton PRIDE Day, Saturday, June 13th: For the third year in a row, POP will march in Princeton's PRIDE Parade and have a booth at the After Party with information about the congregation and the House Next Door.

Lining for the parade begins at 9:00AM at the park in front of the Princeton Fire Department on Witherspoon Street, marching will start at 10:00AM, and end at the Princeton YMCA where the After Party will take place.

If you'd like to either help with setting up, manning the booth, or marching in the parade, please contact Con Sweeney for more details.

Bobby Jo Valentine Concert, Sunday, August 23rd: [Bobby Jo Valentine](#) is an explorative, hopeful, spiritual, queer artist who strives to make music and poetry that is good medicine for everyone. Bobby Jo has won multiple awards for his songwriting, given a [Tedx](#) Talk, and is a believer in the soft and steady power of everyday acts of love to heal our world. He uses his art to tell about his coming out journey. POP is cosponsoring this event with Emanuel Lutheran Church of New Brunswick.

More details will be available as we get closer to the date.

Con P. Sweeney

Reconciling in Christ Team

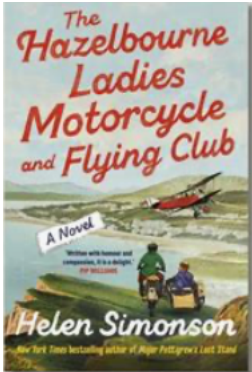


Book Group

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

*We meet once a month in the church lounge at 1
p.m. Please bring your lunch and/or snack for
others to share.*

**Thursday, June 11th at 1 p.m. in the
Lounge**

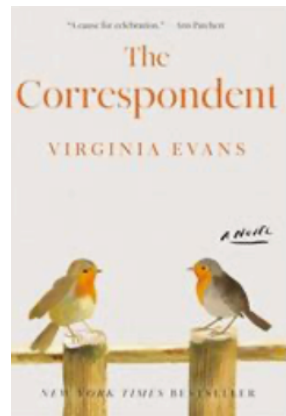


The Hazelbourne Ladies Motorcycle and Flying Club by Helen Simonson

This witty and delightful novel takes place in the aftermath of WWII when women who took on "men's work" during the war are expected to return to traditional female roles.

Constance becomes a companion to an elderly lady at a seaside hotel where she meets Poppy, a woman who wears trousers, operates a motorcycle taxi service and employs local women. Poppy also runs a motorcycle and flying club and welcomes Constance into her circle of friends. Soon, however, club members find that their newborn freedoms are being threatened by those who do not welcome change.

**Thursday, July 9th at 1 p.m. in the
Lounge**



The Correspondent by Virginia Evans

Sybil Van Antwerp is a retired lawyer in her 70's who keeps up with her family and friends through the letters she writes each morning. Her letters help her make sense of the world. One letter she writes

but never mails, however, recalls the guilt and grief she still feels over the death of one her children. Eventually when she begins receiving letters from someone in the past, she comes to realize that the unsent letters she has been writing need to be read. The novel describes the transformative power of the written word.

Parish Care - June 2026

Sharing our POP Care with All

Our usual ongoing monthly projects continue. Splash and Hope through Healing are monthly mailings to families welcoming a new family member and families who have lost a loved one continue. If you know a family to include, please contact us

Care Notes and Prayer cards are in the breezeway. Please take and share.

Looking for folks to deliver our Sunday bulletin to those that cannot attend Sunday worship. If you would be willing to deliver bulletins, please let me know.

Congratulations to all our Graduates of 2026. 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.

We are also thinking ahead to advent and Valentine's Day. Please share your contact info for next fall when you have the details.

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

Springtime in the Peace Garden

It has been a busy Spring in the Peace Gardens! Our volunteer gardeners have been working hard planting a variety of seeds and early summer seedlings in both the Peace and Cherry Tree gardens, all of which were given to us by PHS (the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society) as part of their City Harvest program. We've planted potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, summer squash and more. Sadly, several garden beds of early spring crops planted in April, such as broccoli, kale and cabbage, were lost to some very hungry critters. However, most of our other spring greens escaped being eaten and we were able to have our first two harvests during the last few weeks of May. 25 pounds of bok choy, mustard greens, spinach, lettuce, collards and herbs have been donated to St. Bart's so far. Thank you to Kathy Morris for delivering our first produce! Upcoming harvests will include garlic scapes, snow peas, sugar snap peas and hopefully some strawberries as well as what looks to be a bumper crop of blueberries!

Other exciting news from the garden is the completion of our new and improved garden fence! The fence was built and installed by our own member and Boy Scout John Durie and his crew of volunteers as his Eagle Scout project. It looks amazing and we hope it will solve many of our critter problems so that we can have successful harvests for communities in need. Be sure to take a look at the new fence and to thank John for his hard work and determination to complete this worthy project.



This month we look forward to the arrival of more seedlings (thanks again to Joan New and Cathy Corcoran for doing our pick-ups!) and hopefully to some bountiful harvests as the weather stays warm and our crops grow and flourish. Help is always welcome and needed! We are now working in the gardens Tuesday mornings from 10-12 and Friday mornings from 9-11. No experience is needed, just a willingness to get your hands in the dirt (or wear gloves!). If you'd like to help but those times don't work for you, let us know and we can suggest tasks to be done on your own time, such as helping with watering the gardens. You can contact Nancy Reyes nancyauerreyes@gmail.com or Shari Rexroad srexroad915@gmail.com for more information. We'd love to have you join us!

Racial Justice

POP's Racial Justice Team Continues to Confront Racism

First, the Racial Justice Team owes a big SHOUT OUT to KATHY AND GREG NOWAK, our RACIAL JUSTICE FREE LENDING LIBRARY LIBRARIANS! Kathy and Greg may not be members of our team in the sense of planning events or attending our meetings, but they volunteered to monitor and organize the many books purchased and donated over the past seven years since this team began to help our congregation as we educate ourselves by READING about all kinds of Racism, Equity, And Diversity. If you've recently been at POP in person, you've probably noticed the monthly displays of books for the national theme of the month, such as Black History Month or Asian

Heritage Month...THANK YOU to Kathy and Greg for taking the time to sort through the collection to find those specific to each theme, develop the handouts and set up the displays. We hope more of you will take advantage of the fiction and nonfiction books available for all ages. Remember you're welcome to share your thoughts on those books with others when you return them! And remember to thank Kathy and Greg!!!

This past month several members of your Racial Justice Team attended webinars sponsored by both national and Synod ELCA groups. Nationally, a partnership between the ELCA Strategy for Authentic Diversity, the Albert "Pete" Pero, Jr. and Cheryl Stewart Pero Center For Intersectionality Studies at the Lutheran School

Racial Justice (Continued)

of Theology at Chicago, and the ELCA Association of White Lutherans for Racial Justice, began a series of virtual webinars every few months to help congregations stand up against White Supremacy. Our own NJ Synod Anti-Racism Team sponsored a virtual webinar, "For Such a Time as This: Confronting the Sin of Christian Nationalism" in preparation for its Synod Resolution proposed at the Synod Assembly regarding congregations and this threat. Our focus below is from the Synod's program.

Pastors Sara Lilja and Serena Rice shared valuable information to help attendees understand the difference between patriotism (devotion to our country as a whole whether you were born here or came later as an immigrant, motivating one to improve the USA) and nationalism (devotion which defines who is or isn't American and motivates one to protect our country against other countries and those who don't fit that definition of American). Although the attendees were not all Lutheran, the following comparison of Lutheran and Christian Nationalist beliefs were presented:

THEOLOGY

Christian Nationalism - Power-oriented, promised God's Blessing on the USA if Christianity is instituted, political, social and religious power.

Lutheranism - Theology of the Cross, God is revealed among those who suffer, God doesn't bless good believers with good life and prosperity - faithful believers still experience hardship

USE OF CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS

Christian Nationalism - symbols used as a tool to support particular viewpoints and purity framework (who is God's chosen people) is used to defend against sexual, racial, ethnic, religious minorities and women.

Lutheranism - symbols used in service of faith and the cross, language of being God's chosen people is meant to communicate theological truth, not political ideology, purity concerns are a minor theme in scripture and subordinate to love. Luther taught and wrote that pastors should change their mass if not working for the people.

AGENDA

Christian Nationalism - Religiosity and idolatry...Not all people who follow Christian Nationalist ideology are Evangelical Christians or are active in faith communities because it is centered in politics, their idol.

Lutheranism - Faith foundation...People of faith can hold a wide diversity of political persuasions, all are called to give first allegiance to God. Simply stated - Christ, Faith, Scripture, and Grace.

WHO BENEFITS

Christian Nationalism - The Powerful (inconsistent with the teachings of Jesus), focus on accumulating power by only those who are loyal to the ideology, leading to racial subjugation, power over strategy, maintaining privilege.

Lutheranism - those in need, marginalized groups and individuals, no restrictions on race, gender, religion, political ideology - everyone is our neighbor.

Are you interested in learning more? Contact Nancy Reyes at nancyauerreyes@gmail.com to:

Get forwarded email with the recording and follow-up resources from the NJ Synod program discussed above.

Get information on how to sign up for the rest of the free 5-part webinar series (spread over the rest of 2026) which the national ELCA Racial Justice Ministries recently began on Equipping the Church to Dismantle White Supremacy.

Share your personal thoughts on Christian Nationalism with POP's racial Justice Team, questions, whether or not we should do more at POP on this topic, and any suggestions you have.

Join POP's Racial Justice Team as we move forward into 2026-7 deciding how to educate our congregation and community against racism, what to emphasize in the coming year, and contribute your voice at our monthly virtual meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, currently from 7-8:30.



177 Princeton-Hightstown Road
Princeton Junction NJ 08550

Church Office: 609-799-1753

E-Mail: email@popnj.org

Website: popnj.org

Sunday Schedule

9:30 am (in person/Livestream)

Office Hours

Tuesday through Thursday, 9 am - 2 pm

Latest details can be found in the Sunday bulletin