

Tidings of Peace



November 2023



Worship in November

*Worship with Holy Communion at 8:30
In person/Livestream Worship at 9:30 am*

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

November 5

All Saints Day
The Beatitudes

Rev. Dr. Paul Rorem Preaching

November 12

24th Sunday after Pentecost
The Ten Bridesmaids

Rev. Dean Brown Preaching

November 19

25th Sunday after Pentecost
The Parable of the Talents
Claudia Thompson Preaching

November 26

Christ the King Sunday
The Judgment of the Nations
Pastor Peter Preaching

Pastor's Page

Three items this month to keep you all informed.

1. There have been increasing attempts (almost weekly) via text and email with strange requests using my name or Pastor Dale's name. These are always scams. Please, if it sounds off, it is off. Dale and I will never make personal requests electronically. Please report as spam and delete.
2. Bishop Bartholmew has asked me to serve as Vice Pastor at St. Paul's (our neighboring Lutheran church in East Windsor) upon the retirement of Pastor Jim Egan. I will only be serving in this capacity during November as a full time interim pastor will begin December 1. During November I will be on call for pastoral concerns, attend the council meeting, and lead worship. It is good for all of us to support our neighbors at this time. Know that I will be totally present at Prince of Peace during the week, just not on Sundays. For one week (November 5-12,) Dale and I will be away in Washington D. C. reconnecting with friends in a long planned reunion. Pastor Erich will be on call at POP, and probably at St. Paul's too.

Sundays are all set at POP. November 5th Rev. Dr. Paul Rorem will preach and Dale will preside. November 12th our Assistant to the Bishop and friend of Prince of Peace, Rev. Dean Brown will preach and preside. And on the 19th our own Claudia Thompson will preach, and Dale will preside. I will return to POP on the 26th as Dale will preach and lead worship at St. Paul's.

3. Finally, the 8:30 service will take a break beginning November 5th reconvening on March 31st, Easter Sunday. This decision was made by the staff. There are many reasons. The 8:30 service was started as a response to the pandemic to give the congregation an outdoor worship option. It continued indoors during the colder weather to provide ample space for members wanting to spread out. As the pandemic has waned these options are no longer

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 December issue is Sunday, November 26th

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
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 Herrington, Secretary (non-voting)

Pastor's Page (continued)

critical. Also, when the service moves indoors it becomes stressful for musical groups and the communications team to get ready for the 9:30 service in a timely manner. In addition, with many guests coming in November and with the upcoming holidays, (Christmas and New Year's Eve are on Sundays this year,) it has been requested to do only one service. Finally, attendance, though consistent, is small averaging between ten and fifteen, (there were only eight this past Sunday.) But the good news for those who attend the 8:30 service is that it will return in the warmer weather (Easter Sunday,) when hopefully most of the services can be in the outdoor chapel.

Thank You,
Pastor Peter

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.*

Adult Forum for November

November 5th

Dr. Tim Gjenvick will lead a discussion on the Beatitudes, the assigned gospel for All Saints Sunday.

November 12th

Assistant to the Bishop Pastor Dean Brown will lead a discussion on the work of the wider Lutheran church.

November 19th

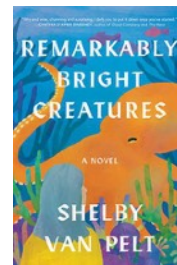
Rev. Dr. Paul Rorem will lead a discussion on the Advent hymn, Savior of the Nations Come.

November 26th

Thanksgiving Weekend No Class

November 9th at 1 p.m. Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt

Marcellus McSquiggles, a misanthropic octopus, develops an unlikely friendship with Tova, a widowed aquarium employee, after a daring tank rescue in this charming and highly original story. The invertebrate's intervention in his new friend's life brings healing lessons in love to a woman mourning the disappearance of her son 30 years ago. Funny and wise.



Thursday, December 7 (Time TBA)

Book Club Christmas Luncheon at the Springdale
Golf Clubhouse
1895 Clubhouse Dr., Princeton, NJ.
(\$25 is requested to cover costs.)

October 2023 Council Report

The Church Council met at the church on Sunday, October 22. We discussed the upcoming congregational meeting to review and vote on the Welcoming Statement to make us a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Con Sweeney was appointed the new Church Treasurer. Once we are satisfied with the job description for our church office manager a new search will begin under the leadership of Martin Rexroad. Finally, our church's constitution needs to be updated to match the changes recommended by the ELCA. The changes will be sent the congregation well before the annual meeting for everyone's review so they can be voted on then.

If you have any questions or concerns about the church and its mission please reach out to any of the council members. And, all are welcome to be more involved in the various church's teams (including the Council, Finance, Property, Communications, Racial Justice, or Reconciling in Christ). Please talk with any of the current team members, the council members, or the pastors if you are interested.

SPECIAL REQUEST FROM PROPERTY AND BUILDING USE TEAMS

Calling all POP members!

"If you see something, say something."

Please let us know if you see a property matter that needs to be addressed. You may speak directly to a team member, or place a written note in the Property folder outside the Church Office door. Put your name on the note so we can contact you if necessary.

WHAM Thanksgiving Service

November 19th

This year more than ever we need to gather with our Christian, Jewish, and Muslim neighbors. As the war is threatened in the Holy Land we need to show our neighbors that we come in peace to publicly witness to our gratitude to God. The service is at Beth El Synagogue in East Windsor. Pastor Rory Chambers from Dutch Neck Presbyterian will be our preacher. The service is November 19th at 7:00pm.

Turkeys and Hams Needed by St. Bart's to Distribute for Thanksgiving

On November 18, 2023, St. Bart's will be distributing food for Thanksgiving to the hungry families in their community. Last year they serviced over 150 families. They have asked their partners in ministry to donate turkeys and hams this year, and we at Prince of Peace are happy to do so. We hope to provide 20-25, or more, turkeys and hams. Someone will be available to receive your donation(s) at the church {come in the front door} at these times:

Sunday mornings before and immediately after the 9:30 am worship service on **November 5 and 12**
Thursdays, November 9 and 16 from 6:30-7:30 pm
Tuesday, November 14 from 10 am-noon
Wednesday, November 15 from 10 am-noon

If these times are not possible for you, call Pastor Peter at 908-797-7339 to arrange a drop-off time. Thank you so much for considering participating in this much-needed ministry outreach to help feed our neighbors in the Trenton/Hamilton area this Thanksgiving!

Berta Schott, for the Social Outreach Ministry Team and Pastor Erich from St. Bart's.

DINNER CHURCH

The
House
Next Door

“All Saints Day”
Wednesday, November 1
6:00 PM

*For all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to live, who followed you,
obeyed, adored, our grateful hymn receive.
~ ELW 427*

We welcome ALL with joy!



Please RSVP no later than Sunday, October 29.
Email your RSVP and let us know what food item you will be bringing.

*** As we celebrate the saints of our lives, please bring a photograph
or memento of one of your beloved saints. ***

RSVP to: hnbdd@popnj.org

Peace Garden Article for November 2023

POP's Productive Gardening Season Ends with Gratitude, but Looking into the Future...

Last week marked the end of the growing season here at POP. For our volunteers, it feels like it flew by despite prepping and planting early and harvesting through the last week in October. Can you believe **that between the Cherry Tree Garden and the Peace Garden, about 800 pounds of fresh produce were donated to St. Bartholomew's Food Pantry?** This included kale, collard greens, peppers, tomatoes, green onions, potatoes, peppers (hot and not), lettuce, green beans, okra, parsley, fennel, basil, oregano, garlic, turnips and even figs to name just a few! Some weeks there were even cut flowers for the grateful recipients in Trenton.

As the season closes, we are **grateful for the volunteers** who worked once or twice a week to plant, harvest, pack, and deliver fresh food to those in need. Our season started with more volunteers than when it ended, but **God Provided all their valued contributions!** Lois and Dave Case put in many hours before moving (not just once or twice a week but even more taking care of the butterfly and labyrinth gardens). Community volunteer Fran Lalka helped early in the season before starting to take Master Gardener classes on our gardening day as a result of her experience. Members Liz Zarillo and Varshini Kaki answered the call for more help later in the season. POP members Berta Schott, Shari Rexroad, and Nancy Reyes kept the gardens going from beginning to end of the season as they have in past years.

The above volunteers, however, would not have been able to produce so much without **two special volunteers coordinating and making knowledgeable decisions about what to plant and where.** Last year, **Laura Poethke, member of an ELCA congregation in the Burlington area,** asked if she could help at POP to learn the ropes to start something similar at her church. She soon began coordinating much of the Cherry Tree Garden, planned the garden POP members built last year for God's Work Our Hands Day at St. Barts and worked with the children in that nursery school, and now will be leaving us to bring those skills to the new food pantry, gardens and related programs at her own church...We are so grateful for the time, effort, and skills she shared with us for the past two years!

Last but certainly not least, "our" Master Gardener, Nancy Nicosia, will be retiring from POP's gardens.

While volunteering at the Cherry Tree Club in the kitchen serving the children at lunchtime, Nancy expanded their program by starting the Cherry Tree garden where she helped the children learn about fresh food, growing and eating their self-grown cherry tomatoes, pumpkins, and fresh veggies behind our current Community Room. When she heard that POP members were considering starting a garden to raise produce for those who experience food insecurity in our area on our adjacent property, she immediately volunteered, helping form the beginning with the planning, coordinating, working the soil, rotating crops, addressing problems from insects to disease to rodents to fertilization, bringing in children and teenagers as well as community members through the years. Off season she's been planting seeds and growing seedlings in her own home. During the growing season, Nancy's usually the one driving to and from Philadelphia, putting in more required volunteer hours there to keep us qualified for their donations but also transporting donated plants and materials multiple times and coordinating deliveries of mulch and wood chips from the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society saving POP's funds as they fulfill many of our garden needs. She's even here on days when we aren't gardening, turning water on and off and moving hoses and harvesting on her own time when weather didn't permit us to do so on scheduled days. Nancy was the one who suggested we make Christmas wreaths and spent several days each year collecting the natural materials and drying/preparing for past fundraisers....**We will sorely miss her energy, dedication, and expertise at the Peace Garden and St. Barts** (in addition to volunteering at other local gardens and pantries). Shari Rexroad has generously started taking Master Gardener classes and is learning the ropes from Nancy to try to fill at least one of her boots, but as you can imagine, we'll need LOTS more volunteers next spring and summer! **We are extremely grateful for the blessing we've had in Nancy Nicosia, for all she's done for over 20 years between Cherry Tree Club and POP's gardens and in her quiet work behind the scenes. Imagine all the lives she's touched in so many ways through her work at POP!**

If you'd like to thank Nancy on behalf of POP and all those she's served through POP, her address is

141 South Street, Hightstown, NJ 08520.



SoulCollage® by certified facilitator Teresa Knipper

Dates: October 27, November 17, December 8, 2023

9 AM-12 PM (coffee at 8:30, program begins at 9)

\$30 per session, \$75 for all three

House Next Door 173 Princeton-Hightstown Road Princeton Junction, NJ 08550 (parking is available next door at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church)

Soul Collage® is a satisfying, fun and creative collage process connecting art, soul, and journey. As you engage in creative play, you make your own cards, each one representing one aspect of your personality. You then use the cards intuitively to contemplate life's questions and enhance self-discovery. Participants will learn and practice the basics to create Soul Collage® cards during the workshop. No art experience is necessary, and all materials will be provided.

This series will be focused on themes of Hospitality to Self, Loved Ones, and Stranger. Each workshop is stand alone and it is not necessary to attend all three.

Come awaken your Inner Wisdom!!

Register by emailing hnd@popnj.org. registration ends the Tuesday before each Friday session.

St. Bart's No Longer Distributing Clothing

Prince of Peace will no longer be collecting clothing for St. Bart's. Because of the shortness of volunteers to maintain their Clothing Closet, St. Bart's is no longer able to distribute clothing. They are very appreciative of the donations they have received over the years and are sorry that they are no longer able to provide this ministry. The Social Outreach Ministry Team thanks all of you at Prince of Peace who have so generously provided clothing. We have now removed the clothing donation boxes that we have had available for those donations.

St. Bart's still needs food donations, however, now even more than ever, because of the high cost of food and the number of people in their community who need this assistance. The Food Donation Box is still outside the white doors, and, if full, please put the food in the shed at the end of the driveway.

November 2023 - Newsletter Article from Racial Justice Team

Racial Justice Opportunities Continue...and our New Librarians!

POP's Racial Justice Team continues to search for ways to advocate for and welcome individuals and families from all cultures and to educate each other about various cultures and those who are marginalized. One way is through our Racial Justice Free Lending Library in the lounge next to our sanctuary. MANY THANKS TO KATHY AND GREG NOWAK WHO VOLUNTEERED TO BE OUR NEW LIBRARIANS! Contact them to donate relevant books and check out the new additions including a binder with ongoing recent articles about racial justice.

Mark your calendars for the following opportunities with POP or on your own:

November 12 after 9:30 worship - POP's Informal Self-Guided Tour of Princeton's Black History...Join others who were fascinated by Shirley Sattersfield's presentation at POP this fall OR who couldn't attend but were interested....Walk around downtown Princeton with others from POP and stop at many of the 29 sites of significance according to the Witherspoon-Jackson Historical and Cultural Society, guided by the online tour Ms. Satterfield developed. (Sign up by emailing Liz Zarillo at ezarillo@hotmail.com or on the bulletin board at POP.)

Not able to walk that much but interested? Here's another way to learn more in case you missed this at West Windsor Library in September. "ROBESON BEFRIENDS EINSTEIN": "Albert Einstein: Champion of Racial Justice and Equality" will go on the road through mid-2024. Upcoming tour venues and dates include The Jewish Center Princeton, November 19-December 20; Plainsboro Public Library, January 2-27; Montgomery Public Library, March. Shirley Satterfield, a lifelong resident of the Witherspoon-Jackson neighborhood and a childhood acquaintance of Einstein, said, "The mainstream press in the mid-20th century reported on nearly everything Einstein did, except for his involvement with the African American community. Our exhibit highlights this largely unknown aspect of his life."

Th Racial Justice Team meets virtually the first Tuesday of every month from 7-8:30. Contact Nancy Reyes or Con Sweeney anytime for the Zoom link to join us!

Sharing our POP Care with All

Sharing our care and concern with those in our community in times of need and joy.

Sharing our Faith at church and in our community in many different ways as we continue our journey with Christ.

Read - Talk - Pray - Share - Bless - Assist

For Our Young Adults Away at School – and older Friends that do not get out

Advent calendar mailing November 15, 2023: We are gathering mailing, shipping and email addresses for our young adults that are away at school. We connect with our students a few times during the school year. Please make sure we have a current 2023-4 address. Our first mailing, an Advent calendar, is going out soon. If you would like for one to be sent to young adult or older friend, please make sure I have a mailing address ASAP. Please let me know if you have names to add, correct or delete. We will use this address to ship our Valentine Care Boxes in February. Please confirm address even if it is the same as previous years.

Transportation: We are looking for some transportation assistance to and from Sunday church services. If you can take some time to help, please contact me or church office. We will see what can be arranged.

On Going: We continue with our monthly mailing of Hope Through Healing (loss) and Splash (new baby) pamphlets to families with new little ones.

Care Notes are available in the breeze way. Please share with those in need. If there are some topics that you would like to see, please let me know.

Knitted prayer squares and prayer cards are also in the breezeway. Small ways to remember our journey with God.

Care Note Ministry

In the breezeway you may have noticed a display of Care Notes. These are pamphlets with spiritual messages to help us with our everyday life events. They are for all to take and benefit from their messages. Many thanks to Ginger Reiersen for keeping the display full and current and Chris Wethe for continuing to supply our pamphlets.

2024 Calendars

We are gathering **2024 calendars**. Many thanks for all the calendars we have gathered so far.

If you have received many in the mail and do not have a home for them, we are gathering them. We will take them to adult care communities in the area. They are greatly appreciated by the residents. There is a box inside the breezeway to leave your donation.

And, it is not too early to start thinking about Advent and Christmas. Watch for details of ways we can share the joy of the season with others.

Watch for upcoming Details

We will be sharing Christmas Blessings with our church family that can not be with us in church. There will be cards to sign along with a Christmas message. We will be filling small Christmas bags with some goodies. Watch for the time and place to assist with this project.

Young Adults

We are gathering mailing, shipping and email addresses for our young adults away at school or military. We keep in touch with our students throughout the year. Please make sure we have a current 2023-24 address. Our first mailing is going out in early November, so please make sure we have the information. Please leave in church office or send me an email with the contact info.

Prayer Squares and Prayer Cards

On the table in the breezeway are Prayer Squares, knitted by Joyful Knitters. They are there to be used by yourself and to share with others.

If you would like to help with any of our projects or be part of our team, please join us. We are always looking for new ways to share our care with others.

Advent begins November 26th - the first Sunday of Advent:

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 if you can share some care.

If you know of anyone that would appreciate some special care please let us know how we can help.

November is the month of Thanksgiving.

We have much to be Thankful for at POP.

Many Thanks to God for all our gifts of Caring.

See you in church as we start a new church year

I am looking forward to talking with many and arranging
our new way of sharing our care.

Martha Winder

maw14jpw@aol.com



Creating + Crafting Festive Stars *for* Advent

Friday, December 15, 2023

9.15a Coffee
9.30a **Reflection + Meditation**
10a — 2p **Star making / crafting**
2p — dusk *the house and grounds will remain open for prayer,
silence and personal retreat time*

LOCATION

The House Next Door

177 Princeton-Hightstown Road *
Princeton Junction NJ 08550

Stars are often used throughout the Advent season. Jesus is the ***Bright Morning Star***, the Magi were led by the ***Bethlehem Star***, and the Old Testament speaks of ***a star coming forth from Jacob***.

You are invited to step back from the busyness of the holidays to engage in a contemplative time of prayer and listening, followed by an art practice. Using scissors, simple folding techniques and glue sticks, we will each create several different types of stars as a reflection of this rich season.

Everyone is welcome — no artistic experience or skill is required.
All materials, patterns and instructions will be provided.

Facilitated by Pat Pickard + Teresa Knipper

Cost : \$30

bring your lunch or purchase locally

World Holidays & Celebrations – The Day of the Dead in Mexico

November 2023



The Day of the Dead (Spanish: el Día de Muertos or el Día de los Muertos) is a holiday traditionally celebrated on November 1st and 2nd, though other days, such as October 31st or November 6th, may be included depending on the locality. It is widely observed in Mexico, where it largely developed, and is also observed in other places, especially by people of Mexican heritage. Although related to the simultaneous Christian remembrances for Hallowtide, it has a much less solemn tone and is portrayed as a holiday of joyful celebration rather than mourning. Some argue that there are Indigenous Mexican or ancient Aztec influences that account for the custom, and it has become a way to remember those forebearers of Mexican culture. The multi-day holiday involves family and friends gathering to pay respects and to remember friends and family members who have died. These celebrations can take a humorous tone, as celebrants remember funny events and anecdotes about the departed.

Traditions connected with the holiday include honoring the deceased using calaveras and marigold flowers known as cempazúchitl, building home altars called ofrendas with the favorite foods and beverages of the departed, and visiting graves with these items as gifts for the deceased. The celebration is not solely focused on the dead, as it is also common to give gifts to friends such as candy sugar skulls, to share traditional pan de muerto with family and friends, and to write light-hearted and often irreverent verses in the form of mock epitaphs dedicated to living friends and acquaintances, a literary form known as calaveras literarias.

Another peculiar tradition involving children is La Danza de los Viejitos (the Dance of the Old Men) where boys and young men dressed like grandfathers crouch and jump in an energetic dance.

Mexican academics are divided on whether the festivity has genuine indigenous pre-Hispanic roots or whether it is a 20th-century rebranded version of a Spanish tradition developed during the presidency of Lázaro Cárdenas to encourage Mexican nationalism through an "Aztec" identity. The festivity has become a national symbol in recent decades and it is taught in the nation's school system asserting a native origin. In 2008, the tradition was inscribed in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO.

In many U.S. communities with Mexican residents, Day of the Dead celebrations are very similar to those held in Mexico. In some of these communities, in states such as Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona, the celebrations tend to be mostly traditional. The All Souls Procession has been an annual Tucson, Arizona, event since 1990. The event combines elements of traditional Day of the Dead celebrations with those of pagan harvest festivals. People wearing masks carry signs honoring the dead and an urn in which people can place slips of paper with prayers on them to be burned. Likewise, Old Town San Diego, California, annually hosts a traditional two-day celebration culminating in a candlelight procession to the historic El Campo Santo Cemetery.

Con P. Sweeney, Racial Justice Team



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>
