Tidings of Peace

September 2026

Worship in September

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



September 6
15th Sunday after Pentecost
Pastor Jim Egan Presiding
Arundel Clarke Preaching

September 13
16th Sunday after Pentecost
Pastor Fred Schott Preaching

September 20
17th Sunday after Pentecost
Pastor Paul Roem Preaching

September 27
18h Sunday after Pentecost
Pastor Becky Resch Presiding
Claudia Thompson Preaching

POP Bells still Ringing!

Isn't it wonderful to hear the bell choir on a Sunday morning ringing? We are truly blessed to have such dedicated members in the bell choir at Prince of Peace.

On August 19th, 20th and 21st, from 10 am until noon, we had new and experienced bell ringers work together to improve technique and ring some simple pieces of music. We started with 7 people on Wednesday, 11 on Thursday and 10 on Friday. Some came 1 day, others 2 days and 5 attended all 3 sessions! We practiced in rooms 4&5 with chairs set up behind the tables for resting. It was fun, hard and according to one ringer, great exercise! By Friday, we really sounded like a complete choir! How impressive.

Thank you all for taking time out of your busy schedules and sharing your talents!

The bell choir is in need of several new ringers as Doug and Megan are no longer with us to fill 4 spots. If you have any questions or are interested in trying to ring bells, we are hoping to continue in September. Please call Dorothy Safranek at 609-750-9473 or email **safranek5@verizon.net** for more info.

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 October issue is Sunday, September 27th

Staff and Officers of Prince of Peace

Rev. Dale Selover, Director of The House Next Door
Victoria Sychow, Church Musician
Janis Haddock, Financial Secretary

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)

Food of the Month

The "Food of the Month" for September for St. Bart's is Sugar and Mac & Cheese.

Joyful Noise Returns

Our Joyful Noise worship service will return on the 3rd Sunday each month. The first worship service will be September 20 at 1:00 pm and lasts 30 minutes. Pastor Becky Resch will be leading. This worship is especially designed for families with special needs but it is a joyous experience for anyone! Some families will gather for a simple potluck lunch at noon. Please consider coming out to experience this most joyful fellowship!!

Pastoral Call Process

The council continues to work on the Ministry Site Profile with the assistance of Nancy Durie. This is a 12 page, online document! We hope each disciple has completed the Survey to add their thoughts (https://forms.gle/A9rBW2Hnzb3BFJMEA).
The Ministry Site Profile provides a description of the congregation and what is seen as important. Paper copies of the survey are available in the gathering area. There is an envelope outside of the office for returning paper surveys. If you have any questions about how the survey works or how to respond, please contact Nancy Durie, nbdurie@gmail.com or 732-995-9844. Members of the council will be available after worship on September 6 for discussion about the survey and the process.

Welcome our Interim Pianist!

William, a student of Victoria Chow, will be our interim pianist for September and October! He is starting his freshman year in high school and has been playing piano for 9 years. He mostly plays classical music but also does jazz. He also marches with the drum line at his school! When he is not playing music, he helps out his robotics team, hangs out and bikes with friends, and plays flag football. He is looking forward to meeting POP disciples and playing music with us! Thank you, William, for joining our team!

Special Congregation Meeting

The Congregation Council has called for a Congregational Meeting on September 13, 2026 at the end of the 9:30 worship service. The sole purpose of this meeting is to vote on an exciting opportunity that could be of great benefit for POP. It will involve a capital campaign in the first quarter of 2027 and comes with the opportunity for a matching grant from the Synod. A letter with more explanation was mailed on August 28.

An email with the letter was sent on August 29. The council implores all voting members to make every effort to attend. As a reminder, voting members are those members of Prince of Peace who have a contribution of record and have communed in the last two years.

Peace,
Joan

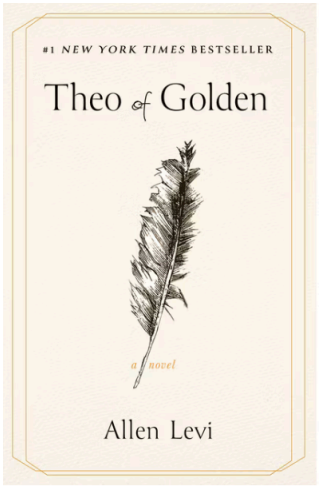
Book Group

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, September 10th at 1 p.m. in the Lounge

Theo of Golden by Allen Levi

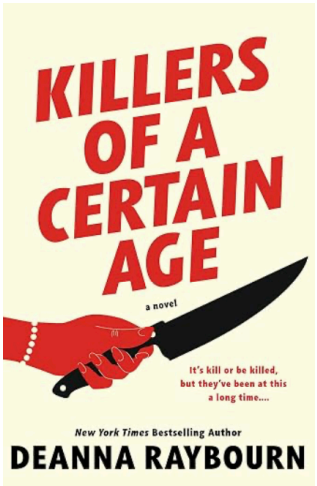


This novel is not one story but many. Theo is a stranger when he arrives in the small Southern city of Golden. When he visits the local coffeehouse, he is intrigued by the pencil portraits of local residents that hang on the walls and begins to purchase them.

He later returns them to the people portrayed and asks only that they tell him their story. The stories together make up a heart-warming novel that focuses on the importance of ordinary lives.

Thursday, October 8 at 1 p.m. in the Lounge

Killers of a Certain Age by Deanna Raybourn



Four women, once assassins for a secret organization called the Museum, are now in their 60's and on a luxury vacation together. Once upon a time they targeted Nazis, war criminals, dictators etc.

Now they find they are being targeted by the very organization that once hired them. This is an entertaining novel that highlights how older women can be a force to be reckoned with.

The Racial Justice Library in September Will Highlight: Faith & Justice for a New Season

September marks a fresh beginning in our church life — new programs, new rhythms, and renewed commitments to learning and growing together. As we enter this season, the Racial Justice Library invites you to explore **"Faith & Justice: What We Carry Into a New Year."**

This month's selections highlight authors who speak boldly about justice, compassion, and the work of building communities rooted in truth and hope. Some books offer historical insight, others share personal stories of resilience, and still others challenge us to see our faith as a call to action.

Whether you're looking for spiritual grounding, thoughtful reflection, or a deeper understanding of the world around us, these books offer rich pathways for beginning the year with purpose. We hope you'll stop by the display, pick up a new perspective, and join us in carrying these stories forward as we walk together into the fall.

If you have any suggestions or would like to discuss ideas or resources for the library, please contact Kathy {**kathynowak@verizon.net**} or Greg Nowak {**gregnowak@verizon.net**}.

NEW Way to Care for our Earth!

Prince of Peace now has a clothing and shoes collection box outside the Community Room doors from Recloth Earth. Bins provide



a simple and convenient way for the public to recycle unwanted clothing and textiles, reducing landfill waste and promoting environmental stewardship. Recloth



Earth envisions a future where textiles are treated as resources, not waste. They work to scale practical collection and recovery programs that help

organizations and communities cut landfill diversion, advance sustainability commitments, and track real, measurable environmental outcomes.
Please share this with your friends and neighbors!!

Thank You For The Filled Backpacks and the Sugar for St. Bart's

Prince of Peace folks donated 26 filled school backpacks for St. Bart's to distribute to school children in their surrounding community. The backpacks were distributed on Saturday, August 29, 2026. St. Bart's expected to distribute about 500 backpacks, which have come from many sources. Prince of Peacers helped distribute the backpacks. It was our "God's Work; Our Hands" day.

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed one or more filled backpacks. St. Bart's and the receiving children and their parents are very appreciative!

Thank you, too, for all the sugar that was donated.

These contributions demonstrate the love and caring of people engaged in God's ministry to others in a very concrete way. Thank you again!

With deep appreciation,
Berta Schott, for St. Bart's and the Prince of Peace Social Outreach Ministry Team

Peace Garden Happenings

We've had a bountiful season this summer in our Peace and Cherry Tree Gardens, thanks to our small but mighty team of volunteer gardeners. So far this season we have donated close to 1000 pounds of produce to St. Bart's! Our summer crops have included tomatoes, eggplant, okra, zucchini and summer squash, cucumbers, green beans and asian long beans, collards, sweet and hot peppers, basil and other herbs, over 30 pounds of potatoes and even a few strawberries, which is a new crop for us this year. We've even been delivering bouquets of flowers to St. Bart's on occasion! This year the catbirds beat us to our promising blueberry crop. While we were happy to provide food for all God's creatures, we learned that one project for next year will be to find a better way to protect our blueberry bushes.

Watermelon will be harvested soon, pumpkins are growing well and we recently planted lettuce and a variety of brassica seedlings from PHS (Pennsylvania Horticultural Society) for the Fall season. We look forward to continue harvesting as the weather cools and would love to have new volunteers join us in this rewarding ministry to feed our neighbors! We currently work from 9-11 on Tuesday and Friday mornings and anyone is welcomed to come and help, no experience needed. Feel free to contact Nancy Reyes **nancyauerreyes@gmail.com** or our Master Gardener Shari Rexroad **srexroad915@gmail.com** for more information.

Whether you volunteer or not, be sure to stop by and visit the gardens after church, or anytime, to see the awesome work our gardeners are doing, the beautiful gardens we have been blessed with, and the abundance of produce we are able to share.

Peace,
Shari Rexroad



Dutch Neck Music Kick-off

A weekend of singing, ringing, and community music-making

First Presbyterian Church of Dutch Neck
154 South Mill Road, West Windsor, NJ

JOIN US FOR THE WHOLE WEEKEND OR PARTICIPATE IN ANY ONE (OR MORE!) EVENTS

Choral Music Workshop



Lift your voice in fellowship and joy!

Handbells Workshop



Make a joyful noise with handbells!

Schedule

Friday, September 4th | 5:30–9:00 PM
HANDBELLS WORKSHOP
Guest Director: Hyosang Park

Saturday, September 5th | 10:00 AM–4:30 PM
CHORAL MUSIC WORKSHOP
Pot luck lunch at noon
Led by Bradley King, Minister of Music at Dutch Neck Presbyterian Church, alongside Graham Bier, Director of Bryn Athyn Cathedral and Reading Choral Society

Sunday, September 6th | 1:30–4:00 PM
OPEN HYMN SING
Everyone welcome!

Director Bios



Graham Bier
Graham Bier is Music Director of the Reading Choral Society, where he leads performances spanning masterworks and innovative projects. A conductor and singer, he has performed with The Crossing, Stile Antico, and I Fagiolini. Bier also serves Bryn Athyn Church and College and conducts throughout the Philadelphia region and beyond.



Bradley King
Bradley King is a versatile singer, conductor, and instrumentalist praised for his "profound" and "engaging" artistry. A specialist in early music, he performs with ensembles including Apollo's Fire, Baltimore Symphony, Lincoln Symphony, and Piffaro, and serves as Minister of Music at Dutch Neck Presbyterian Church and Artistic Director of Andersen's Nightingale, in Princeton Junction.



Hyosang Park
Hyosang Park is a handbell artist, pianist, conductor, and sacred musician. She is Artistic Director of Philadelphia Bronze, co-founder of Duo Grazioso, and a member of Quadratis, Holding advanced degrees from Westminster Choir College and the Webber Institute, she serves as Choir Director and Organist at Enfile United Methodist Church.

New friends. Beautiful music. Lasting memories. | *All ages and experience levels welcome!*

Scan to sign up through SignUpGenius
Register for the full weekend or individual events.

Don't miss this opportunity to make music and memories together!

All are welcome

dutchneckpresbyterian.com | 609-799-0712

Parish Care - September 2026

Amazing!
Summer is done!!
September 1st is here!
Back to School!
The fall start of our church year!

As our Church Year begins
Here are a few Parish Care needs and projects.
This will be a year of "new" and creative ways to share our Care

Back to School Time
When, where and how to contact our young adults away at school
Parish Care keeps in touch with our young adults. Please send us updated contact information. (USPS mailing address, email etc)
We will be mailing advent calendars in early November and preparing for our care box shipment in Feb.

Rides Needed
To and from the Sunday church service. If you can help with rides, please let me know.

On Going Projects
We continue with
Splash – mailings for families with young children under 3
Hope through Healing mailings – for families that have lost loved ones
Care Notes in the breezeway for dealing with life issues and joys.
Prayer Squares – Thanks to our joyful stitchers we have knitted prayer squares
If you know of anyone to be included, please contact Parish Care.

Phone Calls and/or Deliver Sunday Bulletins
As we enter the call process we would like to keep in touch with our homebound.

A "good morning/day and how are you doing" Phone Call. We would like to reach out to our church family that cannot be with us on Sunday morning. The call is a simple Hi, we are thinking of you, hope all is going well, and is there anything we can do to help. If you can help with making a few calls once a month, your care is greatly appreciated by many. With several folks involved a phone call could be a great way to stay connected. Want to help, call me.

Also the Sunday Bulletin is mailed to our members that cannot get to church. We would like to try hand delivery of the bulletin. This would allow a quick Hello and quick visit. If you would be willing to deliver a bulletin let me know and we will get things organized and started.

2027 Calendar
We are gathering 2027 Calendars.
Many of us have received several already!

They are shared with several of the senior residents in the area. We need help with sorting and delivering them to the residences.
There is a gathering box on the table in the Breezeway.

Watch for dates to sort and deliver these items to our Senior Residences

We are looking for some new ways to remember and care for our church community.
If you have any thoughts, ideas, and would like to help, please suggest and/or join us..
Questions or what to help contact me

Martha Winder
609-799-7280
maw14jpw@aol.com

PRINCE of PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

PRACTICING RESURRECTION WITH GRATITUDE AND GRACE

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