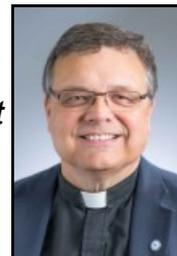


Tidings

Love God - Follow Jesus - Invite All

The Pastor's "News"

By Pastor Peter Hellstedt



For the time being, congregational life is an online experience, with Sunday morning livestream services continuing on Facebook, recorded services available on the website, ZoomZeit small groups and other small groups meeting online, along with Board and Council meetings.

On Sunday, May 24, Riane McConnell concludes her work at Prince of Peace. Since late 2014, Riane has been our Youth Minister and Contemporary Worship Director. Riane will return on a future date after we resume worship gatherings so that we can thank her in person and give her a warm farewell. Riane, you have been a blessing to us!

On Sunday, May 31, the Day of Pentecost, we will have a livestream service at 9:45 and yes, you can **WEAR RED!** On Pentecost we pray, "Come, Holy Spirit!"

The schedule for **Sunday, June 7** includes livestream worship at 9:45, followed by **our annual congregation meeting, on Zoom see details below at 11:00 a.m.** Those unable to connect via Zoom will be able to call in by phone and listen to the entire meeting. Provision will be made for any person to ask questions and vote during the meeting. In other words, there will be no provision for in-person attendance at either the worship service or the annual meeting on June 7.

The annual report will be posted on the website starting the week of May 26. Printed copies of the report will be available for pickup in the church office. Currently, office hours are Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

As for when we will resume on-site worship, let me just say that we're working on it! There will be altered seating arrangements, adjustments to worship practices to accommodate social distancing, and most likely altered service times (temporarily) to allow for thorough cleaning and sanitizing of the worship space between services. So far, no date has been set, but when we do have a schedule firmed up, it will be widely publicized. If you have any questions, please call the church office (847-885-7010) for the latest information.

Annual Congregation Meeting

Sunday, June 7, 2020 at 11:00 AM

Online via Zoom and phone-in participation only

Elections and approval of the budget for 2020-2021

Authorization of temporary worship times for startup of services

Annual reports available online and at the church office starting May 26

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82027616778?pwd=RSsybyt4OWINcVhEOVp4NmFITEFRdz09>

Meeting ID: 820 2761 6778 Password: 4fLLKb

Dial in:

+1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 820 2761 6778 Password: 907223

A Message From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Over the last few months, there have been plenty of sad and worrisome stories that have flooded the airwaves in these Coronavirus times. Many of us have found ourselves saying, “I’ve never seen anything like this before” which is as much an understatement as it is the truth. Depending on what we have noticed or looked for in the news these past several weeks, it is possible that we have been easily discouraged by examples of despair or inspired by stories of greatness.

Through the decades as well as in the past year here at Prince of Peace, there has been a type of greatness that tends to be more quiet in nature, the one that generally escapes the headlines. It is a greatness that in my opinion is deserving of the highest honor or respect. Let’s call it “everyday greatness.” It has to do with faith, commitment, character, contribution, and service. It is a way of living, not an event. It speaks more about one’s motives than about one’s talents. It is more about small and simple deeds than grandiose accomplishments. It is about making a positive difference in the lives of others; a family member, a friend, a colleague, a child, someone ill, someone hungry, someone homeless, someone isolated, a school, a church, a community. It is humble. It’s about committing ourselves to the Lord in very generous ways.

Your very generous gifts of time, energy, and financial support are motivated by a basic love – for a ministry that is faithful to Jesus Christ. Members, visitors, and special guests sense an incredible “vibe” here. It is our contagious spirit committed to needs beyond our own.

Despite the negative noise in the world, you have somehow found a way to step up and make a positive contribution through your sincere, subtle, and service-oriented acts of “everyday greatness.” Everyone counts at Prince of Peace. Everyone matters. No exceptions. Here we believe that beauty is more than skin deep. You won’t find our lives untouched by sin or untarnished by suffering. But you will find people with the love of Christ deep in their hearts. That’s what holds us together.

Warmly,
Mark Walther, Executive Director

We want your assistance:

While we wait for guidance from the government and medical professionals, please know that we have been actively hard at work thinking and praying through how “church” might look in this new environment. While we would love to go back to church as we used to know it, the reality is it might be a bit before we can do that.

So as we process this, we would like your input. We’ve created a survey that should take you about 5 minutes to complete. It is completely anonymous. Our plan is to compile this data and incorporate it into the plans we are working through.

To complete the survey:

- You can scan the QR code here with your phone to go to the mobile survey.
- If you are reading the paper version of the Tidings you can either scan the code or fill out and return the inserted paper version of the Survey to church by June 1st.
- Or, click on this link [here](#) to fill the survey out online.



Thank you for helping in this process. Thank you for your prayers, for your generous support of our church, and for being so faithful to the ministry of Prince of Peace.

2019 - 2020

A YEAR IN REVIEW



JUNE

From preschoolers to teenagers, Prince of Peace shook with VBS fun.

We witnessed the election of new Bishop Yehiel Curry at the Metro Chicago Synod Assembly.

JULY

The installation process of our new Hearing Loop began in the Worship Center.

Members enjoyed fun and fellowship at a Summer Breeze Concert and Schaumburg Boomers game.

POP Mission Trip volunteers ventured to Memphis, TN to rebuild homes ravaged by poverty.

AUGUST

Pre-School and Kindergarten students began a new year of robust learning.

Information, volunteer opportunities, and generosity were on display at our Mission Fair.

Spirited competition and support for World Hunger Relief were generated at our annual Golf Outing with friends from Christus Victor.

EMERGE Family Night Kick-Off ushered in a year of fun and faith-building.

SEPTEMBER

Our Choral and Handbell choirs enjoyed retreats and prepared for a festive year of music.

ELCA Day of Serving brought many to Feed My Starving Children to help support hungry cherubs around the world.

We lived out our core value of intentional faith formation in classes and groups for all ages.

Deaf Ministry was enhanced through sign language classes.

We began our journey navigating the plight of migrant children through AMMPARO.

Literacy for non-English speakers was enriched by Read To Learn volunteers.

OCTOBER

Our first ever Cruisin' Car Show graced the parking lot on a beautiful Saturday with an abundance of auto aficionados.

Collin Crowl was joyfully welcomed as our new Organist.

Hearty participants joined the Crop Walk with partners at St. Andrew Methodist Church.

Pets were celebrated at our Blessing of the Animals service.

Families dressed up for a night of treating and fun at Trunk or Treat.

NOVEMBER

Stewardship Small Group gatherings in our homes and church brought us closer together in our efforts to "Live Generously."

A moving Prayer Revival Service brought guests from around the country and celebrated the power of prayer.

Junior High students shared faith stories and fun at their autumnal retreat.

Thanksgiving Eve Interfaith worship: Gratitude, bread sharing, and reunion time.

DECEMBER

"Lessons and Carols" ushered in the season with our friends from Grace Lutheran Church.

Candles shining, we celebrated a God who gives light to a dark world.

Pledges added up for our ministry in 2020.

JANUARY

High school students met new friends in MI and grew their faith at Grace Adventures Camp.

PADS guests continued to receive caring and welcome shelter and warm meals.

Partnering with other churches in Chicago, we committed to furnishing an apartment for a refugee family.

FEBRUARY

Joyous music brought warmth to the winter at the Choral Concert with our friends at Christus Victor Lutheran Church.

Souper Bowl of Caring brought food to the hungry.

Pastor Sunitha Mortha helped us celebrate diversity at our annual Ash Wednesday Breakfast.

MARCH

A delicious pancake breakfast and gift baskets helped us celebrate POPPK.

COVID-19 impacted our lives as a church, community, and world.

Livestreamed Holden Prayer Services and Sunday Worship Services brought us together in a time of uncertainty and isolation.

APRIL

Online, we walked the way of the cross from Palm Sunday through Holy Week to Easter joy.

Confirmation classes, EMERGE student ministry, and Congregation Council meetings were constructively conducted through Zoom.

Protective masks were sewn and distributed to Kenneth Young Center, LSSI, and Journeys.

MAY

Stephen Ministry "telecare" helped those in need to experience the Holy Spirit wrapped around them.

We said good-bye to Riane McConnell after 5 years of outstanding service as our Youth Minister and Director of Crossroads Worship.

ZoomZeit kept us connected with each other.



Music Notes...

by Scott Uddenberg

Psalm 104:24, 33-34 *Lord, you have done so many things! You made them all so wisely! The earth is full of your creations! I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I'm still alive. Let my praise be pleasing to him; I'm rejoicing in the Lord!*

As I am writing this, the question posed on sports radio: Can Major League Baseball get together to have a season? Fear is at the core of debate between the sides of this issue. Will it be safe? Will there be enough money to cover expenses? What about fans?

It's hard to live with fear, but plenty is going around today. The words of Franklin Roosevelt come to mind. There was lots of fear on that first Pentecost day, as described in Acts 2. There was howling wind, flames everywhere, people talking in strange languages, real Stephen King type stuff! Peter finally spoke, quoting the prophet Joel. In Acts 2 verse 20 and 21 Peter quotes, "The sun will be changed into darkness, and the moon will be changed into blood, before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." The Pentecost message plays well in our current times. We must gather as we can and continue to trust and bring praise to the Lord. The presence of Christ will help us through. The Holy Spirit will guide us through these difficult times. It has been true for Christians before, and is true for Christians today. So though it may be some time before we gather together in our Worship Center, perhaps July, maybe later still, we have a means in which we can gather safely, share in worship, support in community, and repel fear together. Trust in the Lord, for the Lord has many new things in store for us, and we shall face them together!

Watch for announcements on how we gather in worship and how you may be a part of it.

Family Ministry News

by Karen Wagner

Vacation Bible School

Good news!!! Prince of Peace will be offering a modified, virtual version of Vacation Bible School this summer with the theme of Rocky Railway: Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through. We all need that extra power this summer. We will be having a livestream broadcast during the week of July 20 to 24, beginning at 6:00 until 7:00 pm. The livestream will be available to view live or on the Facebook page the next day. There will be an opening with Mrs. Wagner and the engineer of the railroad, Cam Track. There will be songs, a Bible Adventure, some Imagination Station crafts, Bible Buddies, and a closing with a review of songs and Bible Points. Upon registration, you will be able to pick up a packet from church with a student book, crafts and Bible Buddies. In late May, there will be an email with more information sent to families who registered last year. If you would like more information sent to you and you were not registered for VBS last year, please send your email address to wagner@princeofpeace.net. You're invited to board the Rocky Railway!!!!





We are to grow grateful generous stewards of God's gifts in our changing church, community and world.

Our Stories of Hope

We will all have stories about our time sheltering in place, practicing social distancing and venturing out for groceries and other essentials. Stories are what will keep our memories of this period alive for us for years to come. While many of these stories can be marked by disheartening news, there are so many positive stories and examples of kindness, generosity and community that give us hope and encouragement. Restaurants — many themselves struggling through lost revenues — are donating food to first responders and those in need. Donations to food banks and other non profit organizations that serve the needy continue. And neighbors are reaching out, supporting and looking after each other in new ways. While the virus that is altering so much of our daily lives can't be seen, how we choose to respond to its impact is visible.

Our actions are a testament to our spirit, perseverance and generosity. These are the stories we should share with each other and bring with us when we look back on this period. These are the stories of stewardship to each other and to our communities that we are familiar with at Prince of Peace. If you participated in our recent *zoomzeit* sessions, you may have already shared your stories. Thank you. But don't stop there. Keep reaching out to each other in our faith community, participate in more *zoomzeit* sessions as they come up, and continue to share your stories of stewardship and faith with each other and fill us all with hope.

7th and 8th Grade Confirmation

By Lynette Perry

Confirmation classes ended for the year on May 6 with a year-long review session. This would have been our opportunity to have a celebration with families, but of course, we simply cannot gather at this time. We do hope to host this celebration of our students when we are able, so details will be forthcoming.

As the school year has also ended, our prayers are with our confirmation students and their families for the best summer under the circumstances. Please stay safe, spend some time in the Bible and in prayer. Until we meet again, God bless you!



Stephen Ministry
It Itches!
By Janet Ichida



*For the Creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. **Romans 8:19***

My grandson Oliver, (*Yes! You did know I was a grandma, didn't you?*), decided to help his folks out and go in the backyard to pull some weeds. There was only one slight problem. He wasn't pulling weeds; he was pulling poison ivy! The next morning, he woke up and couldn't open his eyes with all the swelling. (*He was so bad that older brother Teddy didn't even pick on him.*) My daughter took Oliver to the doctor, both wearing masks, and got some medicine. It was a tough night with Stephanie changing cold rags for his face and adding cucumbers to his cheeks. All the old wives' tales were attempted to try to ease the itching. The next morning, it was worse. Off to the ER where different medicine was prescribed. There was some success in that you could finally see his nose. My prayers were going full steam ahead. Oliver is much better now, but he still has a long way to go. By the time you get this email, he hopefully will be almost back to normal, but he now has a new respect for poison ivy.

Now I give this example to perhaps have you bring to mind a time in your life when despite your best intentions, things didn't work out quite as expected. I remember when I cut Stephanie's bangs, and cutting more to even them out, and more to have them straight and then more so only a half inch was showing. Or the time when I tried so hard at work only to have the boss still hate me! Or when as a young bride, I attempted some half gourmet meal to have it come out as a doorstep with pizza quickly ordered.

We have all had this happen to us, but sometimes the end result is much more debilitating. Perhaps you tried your darndest to have a good marriage, but your spouse wasn't quite as invested. Maybe you took your Mom to the best oncologist only to have her pass away in under a year. It could be that you tried to live within your means but your rent went up and your spouse went to the mall. I could go on, but I think you have the idea by now. You could easily pull an Oliver - great intentions; horrible result!

When that happens, consider getting a Stephen Minister. It helps to just be able to vocalize your concerns with nobody making any judgements on your actions. You won't get advice, but you will get a listening ear and complete confidentiality. PLUS, this is the opportunity to try something new. I don't know how our "new" world will look by the time this newsletter is published. No matter what, you will have the choice of meeting with one Stephen Minister in person or have your sessions via telecare, talking on the phone. Either way, you can gab away for an hour each week with a trained lay person. Think about it! Just don't scratch!

By the way, we concluded our training for three fabulous members of our congregation. Ron Epperly, Glenda Klein-Mali and Renee Lucas will have prayerfully completed weekly training by the beginning of June thanks to Zoom! Commissioning is tentatively scheduled for the end of August. You will get more information on that in the coming months. Once again, grand intentions don't always work!

We'll be waiting to hear from you. Now that almost all of us have some extra time on our hands, talking our problems away may be the perfect solution. Just beware of the poison ivy!

Linda Heisel
(312) 209-2869

Janet Ichida
(630) 307-8336

Pam Johnson
(847) 382-7521

Mary Simonis
(847) 571-2541

PADS

Prince of Peace has been a PADS site for over 30 years. This years season opened on October 4th, 2019 and served an average of 25 – 30 men, women and children each Friday night. Dozens of volunteers donated food, time and resources each week to provide a warm, welcoming environment for our homeless guests to have dinner and breakfast, and sleep in a safe haven.



Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, we had to shut down our site the end of March but Journeys was able to house all 100 guests into two local hotels with generous donations from area church PADS sites. Guests will be housed until at least June 1st, and local businesses, restaurants and churches are helping to provide meals every day to keep the homeless fed. Our church also provided financial assistance.

The status of summer and fall PADS sites is yet to be determined but we know our community will work together to assist this most vulnerable population.

Souper Bowl Campaign

Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday generated over \$1,200 in monetary donations. In lieu of Prince of Peace sponsoring a special pantry day in the fall with these funds, a check was sent in April to the township to procure much needed food to serve needy residents during the shelter in place order.

Our Sunday school collection on Super Bowl Sunday also included baby food, toiletries and clothing. All items were donated to the Marletta Darnall Schaumburg Child and Family Center, which provides subsidized services to low-income, high-risk families in Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates and the surrounding areas. They also offer childcare services, education and parenting support, and crisis counseling.

If you stop by the PoP office...



Throughout this time of shelter in place, we keep the church office open for those who perform essential office tasks, for anyone who needs to pick up or drop off an item, or retrieve something from a mailbox. We're glad to see you! But please understand that we cannot invite you into our offices during this time. Thanks for understanding!

Pastor Hellstedt

Adult Learning Opportunities

Passages will meet through Zoom beginning on May 6th at 6:30 pm - contact Karen Wagner at wagner@princeofpeace.net for Zoom meeting codes.

Other groups are cancelled until we are allowed to be together again.

Please contact the church office at 847/885-7010 for more information.



Prince of Peace Mission Statement

Love God – Follow Jesus – Invite All



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

A Reconciling Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

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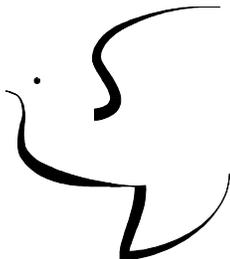
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events

June 7 - Annual Congregational Meeting
Via Zoom

July 20-24—Livestream VBS

Stay Safe



Worship Schedule:

(regular services are currently suspended)
Live streaming via Facebook on Sundays at 9:45 am
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church of Schaumburg

Prince of Peace Staff - Here to Serve!

Pastor	Peter Hellstedt
Director of Discipleship	Karen Wagner
Director of Music	Scott Uddenberg
Organist	Collin Crowl
Preschool & Kindergarten Director	Lisa Isaacs
Church Secretary	Sonia DeLuca
Junior High Lead	Lynette Perry
Nursery Attendants:	Lore Mueller
	Donna Beall
	Sarah Biancalana
	Yvonne Preston
Wedding Coordinators	Sandra Hilty
	Lynette Perry
	Jill Wilkins
Tidings Editor	Leslie Beck

Prince of Peace Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday
Phone: 847/885-7010 FAX: 847/885-0211 Preschool Phone: 847/885-7036
Email: church@princeofpeace.net Web Page: www.princeofpeace.net

Editorial Note: The July 2020 Tidings deadline is Monday, June 8, 2020 at 9AM.

We welcome submissions by email (Tidings@princeofpeace.net -- note this is a new email address), faxed, typed or legibly handwritten.

If you would like to receive your monthly *Tidings* Newsletter via email, please submit your email address to the church office, 847-885-7010 or church@princeofpeace.net.