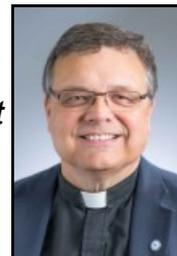


Tidings

Love God - Follow Jesus - Invite All

The Pastor's "News"

By Pastor Peter Hellstedt



Conversations on race are often difficult. Much of the time, we'd prefer to avoid them altogether. We find ourselves on the defensive. Or we find our conversation partners on the defensive, when we'd really just like to get to know someone better.

When race is the subject, it's especially hard for us in the white majority culture to get past the same default positions that are frequently expressed: "I have a lot of Black friends." "There isn't a racist bone in my body." "I never owned any slaves." In the words of Rodney King, "Why can't we all just get along?"

A few months ago, before the pandemic hit, our Board of Stewardship was prepared to launch a discussion series on diversity with the theme "Graceful Engagement." Our initial plans called for conversations where participants would be committed to learn from and listen to each other. We hoped to move beyond the talking points of cable news and social media toward an engagement with one another as fellow Christians in community. We would risk discomfort and lean into each other's stories of pain and frustration. We would be honest with each other and treat each other with respect.

Good news! We are going to have such conversations at Prince of Peace very soon, and you are invited! Pastor Sunitha Mortha of the Synod staff, who spoke at our Ash Wednesday breakfast, has graciously offered to be our discussion leader and series coordinator. An experienced diversity trainer, Pastor Sunitha has designed modules for graceful engagement on diversity, using the power of story.

We each have stories to tell that have shaped our attitudes, actions, and prejudices. Pastor Sunitha will guide us in sharing our stories using a number of different activities for us to engage in. I am hoping that each of us can benefit by such conversations as we explore how our views on race impact our personal relationships and also the life and ministry of Prince of Peace, a very open and welcoming, yet mainly white, congregation.

By the time this Tidings issue is in print, you may have already received an email invitation to participate on Zoom. If you are uncertain about the invitation, or would like to know more, please contact either myself at the church office or our Executive Director, Mark Walther (mwalther727@gmail.com). Tentatively, the first conversation in the series will be held Wednesday June 24, with a conversation at 10:00 a.m. and another at 7:00 p.m. the same day. May the Holy Spirit be our guide as we seek greater diversity, understanding, and love.

2nd Saturday Datz Night



We are still on hold. Watch your email for details about when we may be able to get together again! Hopefully soon, possibly an outdoor event! If you would like to be included please send your email to:

wilkinsfamily@wideopenwest.com.

A Message From The Executive Director

Dear Friends,

I find myself writing this message to you from the card table in our basement on the morning after our Congregation Meeting via Zoom. The last few months have certainly taught me, and I suspect, a great many of us, how to learn the best practices of virtual communication – how to use Moodle and Google, Zoom and Loom, forums, and chat rooms and blogs (Oh my!).



More importantly, yesterday's virtual Congregation Meeting experience reminded me so beautifully of the hymn sung so masterfully by Scott during our livestreamed worship service just prior. Notably, that "we are called to act with justice...to love tenderly...to serve one another, to walk humbly with God."

As our Congregation Meeting unfolded, my heart was filled with thanks for knowing you and working with you as we try to fulfill our Mission to: Love God. Follow Jesus. Invite All. Your adaptability, sincerity, and grace were all on display as we discussed our progress over the past year in the face of some unique adversity.

Our faith in God and our belief that "we're all in this together" at Prince of Peace will certainly continue to transform our lives and the lives of others as we strive to make our special corner in the world, and perhaps beyond, a better place.

Thank you for your generous gifts and grace-filled spirit. Your encouragement provides much hope and joy. Your words are inspiring. Collaborating gives us strength. And learning about our lives together enriches each one of us.

Truly, "we are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God."

Warmly,
Mark Walther

Re Entry Task Force

The Re Entry Tack Force has been meeting since early May. The members are Chair Karen Wagner, Pastor Peter Hellstedt, Scott Uddenberg, Lisa Isaacs, Mark Walther, Joey Pacay and Linda Billhymer.

Recommendations and guidelines have been submitted to the Congregation Council for approval and adoption at the regular June meeting. The information will then be communicated to the congregation at large. Recommendations include policies for protective measures to be taken. These recommendations include physical distancing, sanitizing, face masks, entrance and exit into and out of the building, travel throughout the building, and increased facility cleaning. Other guidelines include policies for liturgical and sacramental modifications, communal food and drink, and small group policies.

Upon approval of the policies, further information will be sent to members in order to communicate current practices.

At the annual congregational meeting on June 7th, the Congregation Council was authorized to temporarily adjust scheduled times of Sunday services as needed. Currently, large gatherings (including full worship in the Worship Center) are indefinitely suspended with worship online until further notice.

If you have questions, please contact Karen Wagner, wagner@princeofpeace.net.

Tell me a story...

By Beth Gibbs, Board of Stewardship

How many of us have said or heard those magic words “tell me a story”? As a parent of small children, it was our evening mantra.... tell me a story! Bedtime was for stories, read from a book or invented. Often the stories were old favorites, or the next installment of a chapter book as my girls got older. Every once in awhile, they wanted a “real” story, you know the kind: they start with “Once upon a time...” and end with “...and they all lived happily ever after!” In between, a story, often with a lesson (I liked to sneak that part in) mostly conveying an event or happening in our lives. My stories were often adapted from things that had happened to me or from things that I read.

A need to tell and hear stories is an essential part of our lives. Humans have been communicating through storytelling since we lived in caves and sat around campfires. Storytelling is often a part of our everyday conversations. Jesus told stories, called parables. Jesus used parables to teach spiritual truths using examples of every day life that the average person could identify with and understand.

We are all storytellers. We spend our lives, consciously or unconsciously, telling stories. I'm wondering is if YOU have a story you'd like to share: specifically, a story about your faith life here at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. How has this place we call our church home changed your life? Do you have stories of faith in action? We, the Board of Stewardship, want to hear your stories! We'd also like to share them with others, with your permission, of course! Over the next few weeks and months, we will be sharing and hearing stories about our faith life at PoP. The more you tell and hear stories, the easier it becomes. Soon you'll be telling others about Prince of Peace because you'll have so much to share.

I'm looking for stories about life at Prince of Peace, in 250 words or less. You can write them out with a paper and pen (or pencil if you prefer) and leave them in the Board of Stewardship mailbox in the fellowship hall. Or you can email them to me at bgibbs4748@comcast.net. You can also mail them to the church at Prince of Peace Storytelling, 930 W. Higgins Road, Schaumburg, IL 60195. Be sure to include your name and contact information so we can get in touch with you.

Maybe you're wondering why I'm asking you to tell your story. They're just for kids, aren't they? No, stories are for all people of all ages. All people from all walks of life have stories, and most all of them contain lessons to be learned and remembered. So sharing YOUR story may help someone else tell THEIR story, and in the process we can learn a little bit more about each other and ourselves in the process. You can tell a story, and the more you do, the better you'll be! Don't be shy, set the stage, brave the storm, take the plunge, lift your sights—whatever you do, TELL ME A STORY! We want to hear from YOU.

Music Notes...

by Scott Uddenberg

"I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."
Philippians 1:6

My Tidings articles over the years have been a place for me to "work stuff out". Finding scripture to help address some of the items impacting my day and sharing thoughts in this column has often helped me to gain perspective about the season, the world, my life, my family, etc.

It's been a struggle this week. I've been granted more time for self-reflection, due to the reduced number of commitments because of the virus, and I'm left with more questions than answers.

I don't feel I can even speak to the events of our current times. I lack wisdom. I lack experience.

I have felt the Holy Spirit moving around me, still. There are moments I have experienced lately in life that can only be accounted for only by the presence of the Holy Spirit. Feeling God's presence helps me. The scripture passage above helps me. There is good in our world. There is good being done by good people in our world. In these times, it gets a little hard for me to see.

I'm glad I've got the congregation of Prince of Peace and many good friends to help me see that good. God is here. God is good. Let's not forget. Reach out, be a part of the good, here at Prince of Peace, and in the world around us. Online worship continues Sundays at 9:45am central time via Facebook Live.

Virtual Vacation Bible School

by Karen Wagner



All families are invited to climb on board for Rocky Railway Virtual VBS! On this faith-filled adventure children will discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs. Rocky Railway will be livestreamed on Prince of Peace's Face Book page on **July 20-24th** from **6pm to 7pm**.

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.

Viewing is free but you may also purchase a supply pack and music to enhance the experience. Register at <https://www.popstudentministries.net/vacation-bible-school> now to receive bonus info on Rocky Railway snacks and to have your child featured in the daily Spotlight Drama!

If you have questions, please contact Karen Wagner, wagner@princeofpeace.net.



Early Childhood Programs at Prince of Peace

By Lisa Isaacs

What a time it has been. With COVID 19, our school year came to very abrupt end, but our program carried on in new and different ways. Our wonderful staff has done a great job communicating with our families and being awesome stewards of the POPPK program. I always love preparing for the next school year and knowing that the teachers and families will come back energized and ready to start another fun year here at POPPK. I am sure the energy will be greater than ever when we do start again! I am deeply praying that we can begin on time in the fall. I hope you all will join me in that prayer. I hope you are all enjoying the warmer and sunnier days! Blessings to all as you enjoy the beauty all around, that God provides for us. Stay healthy and safe, and Happy Summer!

Registration for 2020 - 2021

We will continue to accept registrations during the summer months. If you know of families looking for a quality, Christian preschool/kindergarten, please let them know about the programs here at Prince of Peace Preschool and Kindergarten. We have program offerings on all five days of the week. We also have an Extended Day Enrichment on MWF and a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) option on T/Th for ages 4-6 years old. Come for a visit or call to learn more about our outstanding early childhood program at Prince of Peace! (847) 885-7036. Registered church members receive a 10% discount for preschool.



Stephen Ministry
Pizza, Pizza
By Janet Ichida



For who makes you different from anyone else? **1 Corinthians 4:7a**

Bob and I ate pizza tonight, a regular Friday night meal since Stephanie was quite small. It was the meal that we got to eat in the family room while watching those TGIF comedies from days long past. She has continued that tradition with her family, my grandsons (*You did know I was a grandma, didn't you?*), with their Dad stopping by to pick up the pizza on the way home from work. It seems like almost everyone loves that culinary delight. It's a popular meal during the Lenten activities at church. One of the fun things about our potluck is to see the wide variety of toppings and find out which one gets chowed down the fastest. It's an easy meal to quickly pick up before church so there is usually quite the selection.

I always like to give a little trivia in this article. The most popular US pizza is pepperoni. The most expensive pizza is from New York called the \$2,000 gold-leaf pizza with English Stilton cheese, French foie gras, caviar and 24-karat gold leaf. Second place is the \$500 tequila-lobster pizza, such the deal, which has lobster, caviar, black truffle shavings, avocado, mango and edible platinum flakes. (*I could afford the mango or avocado.*) For dessert lovers, England offers the Cadbury Crème Egg pizza. For the pregnant person in your life, order the dill pickle and mayo pizza. (*I had trouble even typing that one.*)



We are kind of like those pizzas. (*You knew I would get around to this line.*) Some of us are pretty traditional; you know, like only sausage. Others of us are very simple, classic and understated like plain cheese. You all know those people who are bold and full of life like the meat eaters one with fifty kinds of toppings. Members of our congregation might be slim, like the thin crust, while there's a section like me with the thick, very thick, pan style. You can be health conscious with gluten free with just veggies on top or get the pepperoni, bacon and extra cheese. (*You know the one that comes with a local cardiologist's phone number.*) Some people like to be unique ordering my mom's favorite sauerkraut pizza. I asked about pizza favorites on Facebook and got 38 responses in just 20 hours, and part of that time was overnight. People adore their pizza!

It all comes down to the fact that people love different kinds of pizza. Sometimes, it is nice to be different. You feel comfortable in your own skin on easy topics, but other times you feel left out. Being one of a kind is fabulous or absolutely the pits. Both the solitary or overwhelming lifestyles can beg for a good listener, someone with whom to honestly talk. Do you feel alone? Have you recently been divorced, faced economic hardships or met with medical nightmares? Or is your life bursting at the seams in all the wrong places? Are your adult kids growing roots in your home, are you trying to hold down two jobs, is your family overly dependent on you?

Grab a slice of pizza and prayerfully consider getting a Stephen Minister. When life gets back to a new normal, you will have your choice of meeting with your caregiver by Zoom, telecare (*the good old fashion telephone*), or individually in a place of your choosing. We will do our best to offer you all these options because we are so passionate about this vital ministry. No matter what method is chosen, everything is still confidential and totally free. You will be assigned one person who will "meet" with you weekly to just plain listen. Please feel free to contact any of the leaders listed below for more information. (*I may need to go raid our fridge after writing about all this food. Ciao!*)

Linda Heisel
(312) 209-2869

Janet Ichida
(630) 307-8336

Pam Johnson
(847) 382-7521

Mary Simonis
(847) 571-2541

Friberg Update – Tanzania - May 2020

Salaam and greetings from Tanzania,

Steve, Bethany, and Shalai are thankful to be together in Ketumbeine over the next few months. Shalai is finishing her senior year online because all schools are closed. We hear the pandemic has now hit several urban centers in Tanzania. Corona virus will be quite different here because our population is so young. 50% of our population is less than 15 years of age and elders greater than 55 years make up only 5% of the population. Some predict that half of our infections will be asymptomatic. Currently there is no lock down but people in urban areas are wearing masks, observing social distancing where possible, and washing hands before going into any building or store. Our church is meeting outside where it is easy to spread out.

Borders are closed and international flights have been suspended. Tanzania relies heavily on tourism. Now that this industry has shut down, the wider economy is suffering. Local travel and food supply chains are still intact. Tanzania has opted not to close local agriculture and commerce.

Though Naapok has stopped production of beadwork for now, the 55 artisans continue to be paid. Your generous purchases in the past allowed us to build up a reserve which now sustains the project during the pandemic. Thank you!

Over the past 20 years, Steve has become more and more convinced that small health centers can have the greatest impact on public health. Children are immunized against 12 deadly diseases. Two of the immunizations will eliminate future cancers caused by hepatitis B and HPV. Women receive prenatal care and choose to deliver at our small centers. Because of antiretroviral treatment, HIV infection remains low at about 5%. Effective treatments for malaria, tuberculosis, and other tropical illnesses are offered.

With all the economic, social, and medical uncertainties, we know that God is in control. The Maasai expression “Etii Enkai” “God Is” encourages us to call on God during good times and hard times. Every dry season stresses the cattle and people call on God. When the rains come and the danger passes, they rejoice in God’s Presence. We are currently enjoying the longest sustained rains in two decades. Maasai attribute this to God’s Presence.

The Tanzanian church has heard that each of you individually and as church communities are also experiencing turmoil and uncertainties. Be assured that your brothers and sisters here are in regular prayer for you. Etii Enkai.



Naapok artisan and grandson

With you in the same storm,
Steve and Bethany



Souper Bowl of Caring Update

In April Prince of Peace sent the \$1280 collected on Super Bowl Sunday to Hanover Township for the food pantry. With these funds they were able to purchase paper goods, meat, milk and eggs for 80 families that are now able to visit the pantry once a week instead of once a month. Donations from the food bank have been scarce so our dollars really helped supplement clients with necessities and fresh items. Hanover Township is grateful to our church for helping needy families, especially during the pandemic.

PADS Update July 2020



All 100 clients are currently being housed in two local hotels through the month of June as the PADS sites are closed. Local businesses and churches have been assisting with delivery of meals to the homeless staying in these rooms. Further information for the upcoming fall season will follow as we move into Phase 4.

Needed: Volunteer to Take Over Ink Recycle Cartridge Program

For quite a few years I have been recycling ink and toner cartridges for the benefit of Prince of Peace. There are several organizations that pay dollars for recycling these cartridges. Also, Staples will give its Rewards (a no-fee program) members who purchase at least \$30 in ink cartridges every 6 months \$2.00 per cartridge for a maximum of 10 to 20 cartridges per month depending on your Rewards program level. Initially I was mailing the cartridges to an organization, receiving cash, and giving it to the Youth Ministry program for the Mission Trips. As it has become more lucrative to recycle the cartridges with Staples, I have been using the Rewards credits to purchase copy machine paper for the church office.

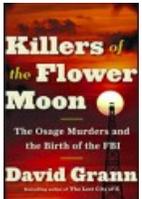
I am writing this article because my husband, Steve, and I are moving to North Carolina to be closer to family and thus I will not be able to continue this service for Prince of Peace. I am looking for someone who would like to continue this project. If no one is found, we will need to discontinue collecting ink and toner cartridges. This is a project that really takes very little time, especially if you just take the cartridges to Staples.

If you have any questions, or can take over this project, please contact me at 847-840-3206.

Thank you,
Sherye Sedlak



Prince of Peace Book Club - June Read



The Prince of Peace Book Club will have a zoom meeting **June 26, 2020** at 10 AM. We'll be discussing Killers of the Flower Moon, by David Grann. This book investigates a series of murders of wealthy Osage people in Osage County, Oklahoma in the early 1920's after big oil deposits were discovered beneath their land.

The Osage Native Americans were awarded the rights in court for the profits made by oil pumped from their land. However, administrators set up a long, complex process for the profit distribution. Very few if any of the Osage people actually received any money.

Wealthy Osage people were killed (at least 20) because of their ties to oil. This book shows the newly formed FBI's investigation of the murders and the people who plotted to keep the oil profits for themselves.

An email will be sent out to the club which will have a link to attend the zoom meeting. Hope you can join us in our discussion. If you have any question, please contact Kathy Tweeten at 847-963-8350 or kat8@aol.com.



Adult Learning Opportunities

Passages meets through Zoom - 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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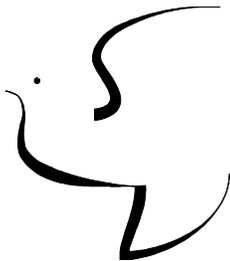
Upcoming Events

June 24 - Graceful Engagement

June 26 - Book club

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 August 2020 Tidings deadline is Monday, July 13, 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.