

# Tidings

*Love God - Follow Jesus - Invite All*

## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - December 24 @ 5pm

Our Christmas Eve worship begins live with pre-service music at 5:00 p.m. on Facebook. We'll have a special message from Bethlehem for the children! Plan to sing your Christmas favorites and share in Holy Communion.

The entire service will be available for viewing throughout the evening, and the rest of the Christmas season, on our Facebook page.



## Welcome Back!

Riane McConnell, masters candidate in Old Testament at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, will be our preacher at the 9:45 service on January 10. Welcome back, Riane!

## Mid Year Meeting

A congregational meeting will be held at 11:15 a.m. on Sunday, January 24, 2021 via Zoom. If you do not have access to the Internet, please inquire with the church office about connecting by phone. The agenda will include mid-year reports on our ministries, as well as updates on the CLC renovation and the call process.

## Pastoral Call Committee Election Results

*Mark Walther Executive Director*

Calling a pastor to a congregation is an important event. We believe it is our Lord Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit, who guides the call process. The calling of a pastor represents a valuable partnership between God, our congregation, and the Metropolitan Synod of Chicago of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

We were fortunate to have 13 members of our congregation volunteer to serve on the Call Committee. In alignment with our Constitution and Synod guidelines, we invited all members of the congregation to participate in an election December 1 – December 8, 2020. Congregation members were asked to vote for up to 8 members from the group of 13 to serve on the Call Committee.

The following candidates have been elected by our congregation to serve on the Call Committee:

Lisa Benson	Glenda Klein-Mali
Mark Benson	Jacqi Schuetze
Rosemary Dyson	Dave Swanson
Janet Ichida	Nathan Zastoupil

We congratulate and pray for each of these members of the Call Committee to work collaboratively, building on trust, openness, good communication, and faith. Their goal is to recommend a new pastor for approval at our June congregation meeting.

Special thanks to our congregation for your sincere and prayerful participation in this process!

# The Pastor's Page



*By Pastor Peter Hellstedt*

## **1.800.799.SAFE (7233)**

This phone number is the National Domestic Violence Hotline. I urge everyone to keep it handy. You may find yourself talking to someone who indicates that they are a victim of domestic violence. This number may save a life, or help someone to receive critical help. Put it in your phone—now—and be ready to share it, in a safe place. If you share it with someone who suffers from abuse, be sure to share this without the knowledge of the abuser.

Along with the phone number, the hotline's website ([www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)) provides an immediate way to connect with help. For all of us, the website is a great resource for learning the essentials about domestic abuse without having to dig into the weeds or sift through pages of a Google search.

Please check out the hotline. Learn the causes of domestic abuse. Learn the different forms that abuse can take. Learn why abuse victims find it so hard to leave their abuser. Learn how to create a safety plan and learn when to use it. Find information on local resources and legal help, including resources for the deaf.

The COVID-19 pandemic has families spending a lot of time together. Often, because of the pandemic, there's simply no place to go other than home. As a result, those who are in an abusive relationship find it much harder to avoid abuse.

As a pastor, I have a special responsibility to make clear to those suffering from abuse that there is no justification for abuse from a Christian viewpoint. Abusers will frequently attempt to manipulate their victims. They will say that God expects spouses to be in submission to their partner. Or that marriage vows require someone to stay with their abuser. Or that "forgiveness" is required for the abuser, again and again.

In a word: no. What God wants is for people to live in peace and safety, free from threats and injury and control. If you would like to speak to me about domestic abuse occurring in the life of someone you care about, please contact me at any time.

Once again:

## **1.800.799.SAFE (7233)**

### **Family Ministries**

You can still register for Virtual Sunday School by visiting [www.popstudentministries.net](http://www.popstudentministries.net). Click on children's ministry and register for Sunday School, ages 3 through 6th grade. You will be mailed curriculum and you can access the Sunday School openings on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com) at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Schaumburg. A new weekly video will be posted at noon each Saturday that can be accessed all week. Contact [wagner@princeofpeace.net](mailto:wagner@princeofpeace.net) if you have any questions.

### **Save the date!!!**

First Communion for third graders will be celebrated during the weekend of **April 9-11, 2021**. Watch for upcoming information on specifics which will depend on the stage of the pandemic at that time.

## Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry has a special place for students in 7th through 12th grades to engage with other believers. Despite what 2021 may bring our way, we are sharing with our youth the message of God's love, Jesus' compassion, and our role in being Christians in this day and age. Students benefit from lessons shared, small group time, and going deeper into their faith.

7th and 8th grade students meet virtually on Wednesday evenings as part of our Confirmation program. We also offer them virtual Sunday School three Sundays a month from 11am to noon.

Students in 9th grade complete their Confirmation requirements through Emerge, our high school outreach program, meeting on Sunday evenings. All high school age students are welcome to join Emerge, and have the opportunity to serve as student leaders.

If you have a student in these age groups, please reach out to me, [per-ry@princeofpeace.net](mailto:per-ry@princeofpeace.net) or 630.329.3439, to register for ministry. Our focus is on your youth, and we strive to provide a quality Christian education suitable for these times. You can also read about youth ministries on our web site, [www.popstudentministries.net](http://www.popstudentministries.net).

Lynette Perry, Interim Youth Director

## Update on Ministries in support of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois Generosity Abounds!

Thank you to all who contributed toward our annual winter coat ministry for the children in the care of LSSI. In addition to the 134 coats and snowsuits that were collected, we were able to take advantage of special sales and “Black Friday” discounts (every day was Black Friday for several weeks in November!) to purchase 93 coats using the monetary donations, giving us a **grand total of 227 coats**.

The breakdown is

- 166 coats/snowsuits in children's sizes for the younger kids
- 61 coats in men's and women's sizes for the teens

We thank Linda Lau for the 21 colorful handmade scarfs—in addition to keeping the children warm, they are symbolic hugs that will last for the entire winter season!



For the Christmas gift collection, we provided hope and joy for 76 children in foster care. Their wish lists included clothes, toys, books, games, art supplies, sports equipment, etc. and gift cards.

Thank you to all who shopped to fulfill the children's Christmas wishes. A very special thank you goes out to Jacqi Schuetze, who entered the children's wish lists on the SignUp website.

The staff at LSSI deeply appreciates the enthusiasm and generosity of our congregation in carrying out our ministries to the children and their families. Imagine the delight on each child's face when they received a warm winter coat and a Christmas gift selected specially for them!



"Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy; be there at our waking and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day."

ELW #765

One of the Sundays in Advent has traditionally been known as the Sunday of Hope. I believe we are assigning the label to the year 2021. We often look to the new year as a time of renewal. A chance to start over again. This year, many of us feel that 2021 is a chance at hope. Hope for the end of a pandemic. Hope for a new start in Washington D.C. Hope for people to defeat hate. Hope for a return to classrooms, offices, churches, sporting areas and concert venues. We're putting a lot of pressure on 2021.

The hymn above came to my mind. It's a call for the Lord's presence, yet it is also a reminder of a promise. A promise that we can have faith in God for hope, strength, kindness, gentleness, joy, grace, calm. The season after Epiphany is known as a season of light. Daylight begins to increase. Temperatures will begin to warm. Renewal is at hand. Brotherhood is in our reach. Dinner out will come again. We will watch performances in a theater. We will worship again, together at Prince of Peace. These things will happen in God's time. However, for patience and hope, you've come to the right place.

It may be sometime before we do gather in person for worship. How about joining our zoom choirs on Thursdays? They'll begin again January 7th. How about recording a video of a musical performance to share in worship? Crossroads does it regularly.

Here at Prince of Peace, we want to connect with one another in as many ways as we can. Share your face, smile and talent.

## Happy 2021!

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### Schaumburg Township Food Pantry

Our greatest need at this time continues to be financial donations. These monies allow us to purchase items from the Greater Chicago Food Depository at wholesale prices and they deliver our order to us. Checks can be made out to Township of Schaumburg with "Food Pantry" noted in the memo section. Donations can also be made through our website ([click here](#)). Scroll down to find the "Donate" button on the homepage.

- |  |                                   |                                 |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| canned meat (ham, Spam, chicken, tuna fish)  | dry beans, baked beans            | baking items such as flour,     |
| jelly  | stuffing, gravy                   | sugar, oil, cake mix, frosting, |
| cereal, juice                                | cranberry sauce                   | muffin mix                      |
| tomato products (sauce, whole, diced, paste) | canned or boxed potatoes,         | condiments such as ketchup,     |
| Hamburger Helper, Rice A Roni                | canned yams                       | mustard, mayo, dressing,        |
| white or brown rice                          | canned corn, canned carrots       | pickles, olives, seasonings     |
| chicken or beef broth                        | kid friendly snacks such as fruit |                                 |
| pancake mix, syrup                           | snacks, goldfish crackers, gra-   |                                 |
|  | ham crackers, pudding, Jell-O,    |                                 |
|  | fruit cups, any crackers          |                                 |

*\*\*\* Our food pantry is undergoing a renovation and our space will be extremely limited possibly through the end of the year. We strongly encourage financial donations so that we may purchase items as we have space for them. Thank you for your consideration!*



Stephen Ministry  
**My Creative Juices**

By Janet Ichida



*When the king heard this news, he was astounded and badly shaken.  
He took to his bed and became sick from disappointment,  
because things had not turned out for him as he had planned.*

**1 Maccabees 6:8**

With us all home relaxing due to current health restrictions, I have decided to expand my horizons. I want to think outside the box and show my creative side. (*Stop that laughing!*) I decided to look at Pinterest to see what would get these innovative juices flowing. After all, when working with those youngsters in our preschool, I have used this site to plan many activities. Wait a minute! I remember my fancy balance scale that fell apart in 3.4 seconds and my volcano that emitted basically nothing. Hmm, better try something else.

Maybe I can cook a scrumptious meal worthy of these cold January days. Bob and I have worked hard to lose this weight, we deserve to splurge. Then my more memorable meals came to mind. We joke that I might have been offering burnt offerings to God. Nope! That won't do.



I could learn a new language to impress all my friends. I glanced on the bookshelf to see a previous try at learning German. I got through three lessons and wanted to give up before our credit card bill even arrived. I better avoid this too!

I could plan some special field trip for just the grandsons and me. (*You did know I was a grandma, didn't you?*) Hold my tootsies! Everything is locked down during this pandemic. Their physical skills FAR outweigh that of an overweight, but fun grandma. I can't keep up with these middle-schoolers, who am I trying to kid. That won't work either!

Have you ever planned something in your head and the whole plan disintegrated? Is your new job a total train wreck with a tyrant for a boss? Is your dream home instead a money pit worthy of the 1986 Tom Hanks film? Is your newest boyfriend just as horrid as the last 37 ones? Did Fun Family Night turn into another screaming match outdoing the WWE? Did you tear that gorgeous splurge of a dress when you nudged that zipper over your Corona 15 or 30? Could just one thing go right? Are all your dreams going nowhere? Who do you call? No, not Ghostbusters, call a Stephen Leader. You will find all sorts of information about this vital ministry that has helped our congregation for decades – yes, decades! There is no charge unlike my language tapes. Instead you will be paired with someone who will truly care about you. COVID may have taken away personal visits, but you can still Facetime, Zoom or just plain old talk on the phone. Nobody will announce your problems on any social media. There's plenty of time on calendars for weekly meetings to occur just like back in 2019. We don't need to try too much new for this important ministry is still around to help YOU! God bless!

Linda Heisel  
(312) 209-2869

Janet Ichida  
(630) 307-8336

Pam Johnson  
(847) 382-7521

Mary Simonis  
(847) 571-2541





## Early Childhood Programs at Prince of Peace

By Lisa Isaacs

**HAPPY NEW YEAR....2021!** Let us have faith that we are on a path to brighter times! COVID has really changed things here in the Preschool and Kindergarten. I have learned to teach 3 and 4 year old's via Zoom! Believe me when I say we are glad to be starting back in-person! I have counted my blessings so many times during this pandemic and I have to say the POP is one of my greatest ones. I want to thank the church staff and the congregation for the ongoing support of me and the preschool/kindergarten program. I pray that each of you have a blessed 2021.

### Registration for the 2021 – 2022

Registration for the upcoming school year soon will be here; which is truly reminding me of how fast the time goes by! Registration will begin, on Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m. All current families, church members and alumni will have a chance to get a jump start on registering their children, before the general public. Open registration will begin on Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>. We have many different options for Preschool, Kindergarten and Extended Day Enrichment (EDE), which is our after school program. Come for a visit or call to learn more about our outstanding early childhood program at Prince of Peace! (847) 885-7036. Also if you know of someone looking for a wonderful Christian learning experience, please encourage them to visit us. Information can be obtained via email, snail mail, on the [web-site](#) or by coming to the preschool Welcome Center. Our email is [preschool@princeofpeace.net](mailto:preschool@princeofpeace.net).

### Portillo's Fundraiser

Thank you for the support at our Portillo's fundraiser. We raised over \$200 and enjoyed the yummy food and good company! It was quite the line!!

## PADS Update - January 2021

Thanks to generous food donations from our congregation, we have been able to provide healthy breakfast and lunch items to 50 homeless guests housed in an area hotel. The food items have been picked up from our church parking lot by the Journeys van and then assembled into food boxes that they deliver to the hotel rooms on Monday morning. We have done 4 collections and hope to do more in February and March as additional funds have been secured by Journeys to keep the guests in the hotel rooms until April. Watch for additional email info for food donation sign ups in early January.

It is heartwarming to see our church respond to serving the PADS guests in the midst of a pandemic when we cannot be open for overnight shelter.

God's Work—Our Hands—Feeding the Homeless!





## 2nd Saturday Date Night January 9, 2021 A Virtual Beer Tasting



What a joy it was to see so many of you at the Clocktower and on Zoom in December! We all agreed that we missed being together!

Remember last year when the Walthers hosted our first ever Wine Tasting event?? That was so much fun! As early as that very night, plans were being made to represent the beer drinkers among us. COVID-19 has forced us to take a different approach – Beer Tasting by ZOOM! Each couple may participate by purchasing their own 6 pack in advance of the tasting. Shopping suggestions will be sent to all couples who RSVP to Jim and Jill Wilkins. We are working with our beer lovers to ensure the experience will be unique and offer a variety of styles and flavors. We will taste together and share our opinions. Please let us know you'll be joining us via email, [wilkinsfamily@widopenwest.com](mailto:wilkinsfamily@widopenwest.com) or text Jill 847-754-7657.



## Prince of Peace Book Club - January

The Prince of Peace Book Club will have its next meeting on January 29, 2021. The selection for discussion is the *Flight Girls* by Noelle Salazar. It's 1941. Audrey Coltrane has always wanted to fly. It's why she implored her father to teach her at the little airfield back home in Texas. It's why she signed up to train military pilots in Hawaii when the war in Europe began. And it's why she insists she is not interested in any dream-derailing romantic involvements, even with the disarming Lieutenant James Hart, who fast becomes a friend as treasured as the women she flies with. Then one fateful day, she gets caught in the air over Pearl Harbor just as the bombs begin to fall, and suddenly, nowhere feels safe.

We will meet on Zoom on January 29, 2021 at 10 AM. If you have any questions, please call Kathy Tweeten 847-963-8350, or email me at [kat8@aol.com](mailto:kat8@aol.com).



A new look is coming soon to the [Prince of Peace website!](#) January 5, 2021

New Blessings Abound has member testimonials that will be changed every 4 months. "This Is Our Story" is a video of members talking about Prince of Peace and there will be a new video every 4 months. Junior High & Senior High now has a section on the Home Page! The drop down menus on the top bar have some new features like Media with links to Facebook and YouTube and a cookbook under Board of Fellowship.

## Adult Learning Opportunities

**Passages** meets through Zoom - contact Karen Wagner at [wagner@princeofpeace.net](mailto:wagner@princeofpeace.net) for Zoom meeting codes.

**Men's Bible Study** meets through Zoom—contact Janet Ichida at [J.Ichida@yahoo.com](mailto:J.Ichida@yahoo.com) for 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

930 West Higgins Road  
Schaumburg, IL 60195

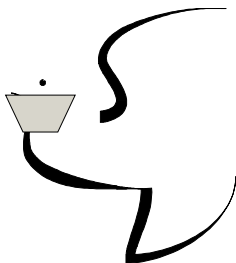
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## Upcoming Events

- December 24 - Christmas Eve Live Stream
- January 5 - New PoP Website revealed
- January 10 - Riane McConnell to preach
- January 24 - Mid-Year Meeting via Zoom
- April 9-11 - First Communion Weekend

## 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
Interim Youth Director	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](mailto:church@princeofpeace.net) Web Page: [www.princeofpeace.net](http://www.princeofpeace.net)

**Editorial Note: The February 2021 Tidings deadline is Monday, January 11, 2021 at 9AM.**

We welcome submissions by email ([Tidings@princeofpeace.net](mailto: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](mailto:church@princeofpeace.net).