



PRINTS OF PEACE

The Monthly Church Newsletter of

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

802 EAST DOUGLAS STREET – ST. JOSEPH, ILLINOIS – 61873-9026

217/469-7422



WWW.POPSTJOE.COM

September 2018

Serving at Prince of Peace

Ministers:

All Members

Interim Pastor:

+ Pastor Donna Smith

Director of Christian Education:

+Shane Remington

Church Office:

+ Lori Bensyl, Secretary

Service Times

+ Saturday, 5:00 PM

+ Sunday, 9:00 AM

Sunday School

+ September – May

+ Class, 10:30-11:15 AM

+ Adults - Main Sanctuary

2018 Congregation

Officers:

+ Jeff Klotz, President

+ Mike Wallace,

Vice President

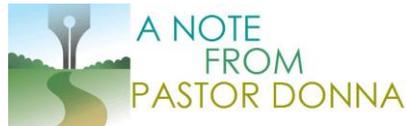
+ Stacey Rudolph,

Secretary

+ Ryan Fisher, Treasurer

MISSION STATEMENT

*We are a family of
believers, united to
know Christ, and to
make him known.*



I am writing this after attending the NALC Convocation in Denver, Colorado. It was a busy and inspirational time, with the focus of the gathering being on the Holy Spirit. Special attention was paid to the journey we all share as Baptized Christians seeking to become disciples and to witness to Christ in the world.

Here at Prince of Peace, it is time for all of us to recommit ourselves to the tasks of discipleship. The Fall “program year” has arrived, with Sunday School and Confirmation classes beginning, increased activities on our Youth Ministry calendar, and so many more opportunities to busily up our community of faith. All this is as usual, but with the added stress of searching for a new pastor at the same time! This means that things are hardly the same as usual and that, at the very least, the prayers of every member are needed as we proceed.

It also means, if possible, that we all try to step up and offer our time and talent to make things happen at Prince of Peace! Don’t be surprised if you receive a call asking you to serve in some new way. It might be some activity or path of service you never saw coming — but that is the way the Holy Spirit works – blowing into our lives with amazing wisdom, strength and enlightenment. Please join me and pray that the Spirit will guide us to build an even more thriving ministry at Prince of Peace! And join in participating in the work God has given us!

Pastor Donna Smith





SEPTEMBER 9th 2018

Join Us to Kick Off an Amazing Year of KidZone Sunday School

- Make New Friends
- Music and Skits
- New Curriculum
- Learn About Jesus
- Crafts
- Service Projects

And More!

Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
KidZone 10:15 a.m.



KidZone Curriculum for September & October

September 16, 2018	God's Word Is Our Foundation
September 23, 2018	Attributes of God
September 30, 2018	We Can Know God Exists
October 7, 2018	The Trinity
October 14, 2018	God's Word Guides Us
October 21, 2018	God Preserves His Word

Music, Service Projects and More!

WE NEED YOU

Become A KidZone Volunteer

Assist with Music



Coordinate and Lead a Project

Teach New Curriculum



Sign Up Today in the Narthex



PASTOR DONNA is available for pastoral care needs and can be reached by email at galrev83@gmail.com, or by text or phone at 217-202-7473. **PLEASE**

NOTE that Pastor's day off is Monday; while emergency or urgent calls are still welcome, please refrain from other calls on Mondays! Thank you!

Our church secretary, Lori Bensyl, is in the office **every morning, Monday through Friday**. You can reach Lori at the church office at 217-469-7422, or email her at lori.bensyl@popstjoe.com. Lori will relay phone and email messages to Pastor Donna promptly.

If you leave a message on the church answering machine in the early afternoon, it may not be heard until Lori is back in the office. In case of an emergency, please call or text Lori at 217-202-2273.

"EAT, PRAY, CARDS" WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE:

In September, our Wednesday "Eat, Pray, Cards" group will meet twice, on **September 12th and 26th**. All are invited to come! We met in the newly revamped Sunday School room for a light brunch, and a brief devotion, and a highly competitive round of cards. We start at 10:00 a.m. Hope to see you there!

POP PLUS

September: POPS Plus Wiener Roast: The September event is a wiener roast at the pond of Steve and Linda LeRette. Come join us on Thursday, September 20 about 5:30 (2385 C.R. 1550 N). Bring a side dish or dessert and a lawn chair. Hot dogs, buns, drinks and paper goods will be provided. Bring a jacket for the hay rack ride! Don't forget to sign up, so we know how to plan!

Women's Afternoon Bible Study: Please join us at our study of The Spirit-Led Heart by Suzanne Eller. We'll learn that the Holy Spirit empowers and equips us to boldly live a life of love and faith. Come see what the Holy Spirit can do! Tuesdays 1:30-3 through October 9. Linda LeRette 377-9204.

POP 456

Fort Night Game Night! Who doesn't love games? Who doesn't love blanket forts? On Saturday, September 22nd, we will be combining the two at the church from 5-9 PM! Four things that the kids should bring, lots of blankets, a game to play, a snack to share, and a friend! We will provide supper and drinks for the kiddos! Parents, you are welcome to join us for some great blanket fort construction!

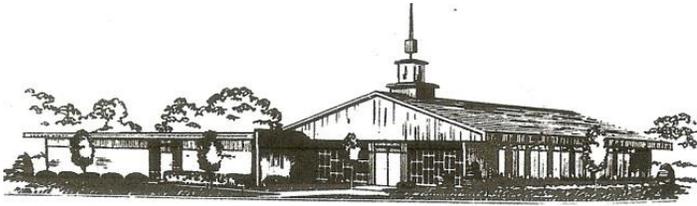
CONFIRMATION

On Tuesday, September 25th, the Confirmation class will be participating in a service project at Salt and Light Ministries in Urbana. They are a Christian ministry that provides clothing, groceries, and other supplies to the needy at affordable costs. We will most likely be sorting through and tagging clothes that have been donated. We will meet at the church at 5:30 so that we can leave and be there just before 6:00 PM. They close at 8 PM and they usually kick us out at about 7:45. We should be back at or shortly after 8 PM. Anyone going should eat beforehand because we will not be getting any food before or after. This is a great event for everyone young and old to get involved in. Please let Shane know if you or your kids will be coming by Monday, September 24th at noon so that he can let them know how many to expect.

YGG

The High School Youth Group Gathering will be returning to the normal school year schedule. We meet from 6:30 to 8:00 PM every Wednesday night in the High School Youth room! We will be sharing a meal together every night, playing a game, and digging into Scripture. Please join us as we grow in Christ together!

STEWARDSHIP



Prince Of Peace Lutheran Church

When it comes to stewardship, a favorite Bible verse is the account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4). It's a moving account. Our Lord praises the seemingly small gift of two copper coins given by a poor widow above the abundance of gifts given by the rich, saying, "Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them" (Luke 21:3).

And that is usually where we stop. But the text goes on. "For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on" (Luke 21:4).



"She ... put in all she had to live on." She gave everything. She held nothing back. She trusted that the Lord who made her and all creatures, who gave her everything she had, who redeemed her from her own sin, from death, and the power of the devil, who called her by the Gospel and enlightened her with His gifts of Word and Sacrament, would continue to do this. He would provide her with all that she needed for this body and life because that is the character of the God she had.

But this is not why we give small gifts. Her gift, though it appeared small, was actually large. When we are tempted to give small gifts it is precisely because we want them to be small! We don't trust the Lord to provide for us.

We give small gifts because we lack faith in the One who created us, redeemed us, sanctifies and keeps us in the one true faith. We give small gifts because we doubt that God will really give us what we need and desire. We give small gifts because we are not content with what God has already given.

We are not slaves, children of the slave woman, under the Old Covenant (Gal. 4). We are adopted sons of the free woman. And since we are sons, we are also heirs. And heirs receive the inheritance. For everything is already ours in Christ. And thus, moved by the willing spirit of adoption, we do the will of God in financial matters far beyond all that done by those under the Old Covenant who were forced by legal demands.

So what have you decided to give? How do I decide what to give? Let the Scriptures be your guide. We are to give proportionally to what we have received from God's giving to us (Luke 12:48; 1 Cor. 16:1-2, 2 Cor. 8:12). But you have not been set free to give nothing. See that you excel in the grace of giving (2 Cor. 8:7).

We are not free to live selfishly outside the Gospel, without regard for God who gives us all good gifts, without generosity for our neighbor who needs us and our gifts, without supporting the community of faith in which we live, without care for our spiritual fathers and those who teach and help raise our children in the faith, without resources for the poor and needy – in short, we are not free to live unto ourselves, hoarding what God has given us only for us.

For love is the fulfillment of the law (Romans 13:10). And the sum of the law is this: Love God and love your neighbor (Matt. 22:34-40). We love because He first loved us. We give because He has given to us.

Luther once said, "Possessions belong in your hands, not in your heart" (LW 14:240). There is a reason your 10 fingers spread apart. With your hands you catch God's gifts for what you need and let the rest fall through your fingers to your neighbors – your family, your friends, your community, your church.

www.lcms.org

Congregational Workshop 8/25/18

A message from the Prince of Peace Pastoral Call Committee (Jason Emmert, Chase Gilliland, Janice Koss, Tracey Mathis, Gary Olson, and Paul Swinford). We bring greetings and an update on the call process, in which we are now fully engaged. In this message we would like to share some information about the process itself, as well as an update about the congregational workshop that was held on August 25.

The Call Process

(much of this information was shared during the worship services on August 18 and 19)

First, we would like to ask the congregation to join us in the following:

1. Using the “Jesus Calling” daily devotional, which we have found to be scripturally-based, enjoyable and inspiring.
2. Praying:
 - a. For the call committee, congregational leadership, and Pastor Donna
 - b. That God will be working in the heart and life of the pastor He wishes to call as our next pastor
 - c. That we and our future pastor are open to the working of the Holy Spirit
3. Creating a “gratitude list” by finishing the following sentence: “Dear God, I’m thankful for Prince of Peace because...”

Second, we want to provide some information about the call process from the NALC (for more information, see <https://www.thenalc.org/>). The NALC explains the call process as a spiritual process of discernment led by the Holy Spirit. It is God’s process, not ours. It will take whatever time God intends, and what at times may seem like a long delay may be the Holy Spirit working in the process and in a particular pastor’s life so that he or she is available and open to a call by the congregation.

The goal is to allow God’s will to unfold in such a way that the call committee, council and congregation are open to recognize and receive the pastor whom God is calling. We’re waiting for the revealing of God’s will, not worrying about completing the process as quickly as possible. This will require patience and wisdom from all of us. God may be using his timing to help us grow spiritually in some way, as we learn what it means to be patient and “wait for the Lord.”

The call process is much more relational and covenantal than the secular hiring process. Going slowly and intentionally, seeking God’s will, and developing a relationship are more important than lining up skills and needs. Not every pastor whom God calls to a particular congregation has all the gifts and skills needed to lead that congregation, but God calls them, then assists them in developing what is needed.

Also, the call of a pastor is open-ended—valid until the pastor may be called elsewhere. In the Lutheran tradition, pastors are not “hired and fired.” Pastors and congregations make a covenantal commitment to one another—to pray for each other, to support and encourage each other, to grow together as needed. The commitment is intended to hold pastor and congregation together through good times and times of challenge.

So far the call committee has had three meetings, during which we’ve spent time getting to know each other better and processing what the congregation is going through right now. As recommended in the manual, during our second meeting we had a conference call with Pastor David Wendel, Assistant to the Bishop in the NALC national office. He outlined in detail the overall process, and the importance of the congregational workshop. Our third meeting focused on studying scripture as guided by the call process manual, and preparing for the congregational workshop, which was held on August 25 (see the brief summary below).

The next step for the call committee is to fill out a congregational profile, which will then be submitted to the NALC. Once the NALC receives our paperwork we will be put on the vacancy list, which will allow pastors to begin expressing their interest to the NALC. The NALC will pass along names to us, and we’ll begin contacting pastors by phone or email to let them know we’ve received their profile. We’ll ask for transcripts and videos of previous sermons, and when we discover someone for whom the Holy Spirit is prompting us to seek a more thorough interview, we’ll invite the

candidate to spend the weekend with us, presiding over services and meeting with the call committee, council, and congregation.

Please note that up to the point when the call committee invites a pastor to interview here, confidentiality will need to be maintained with regard to the identities of the pastors who are interested in our vacancy. Thus, the call committee will not be making regular announcements revealing the identities of pastors with whom we are in conversation, as some may be serving other local congregations and not wishing to announce they are open to a call until and unless they receive another call. At the appropriate time, the pastor's full name and information will be shared with the council and the congregation.

Once we're ready to make an offer, the church Council will schedule a congregational meeting for a vote. After the vote has passed, there's a second vote on a compensation package. After that, it's common to give the prospective pastor 30 days to prayerfully consider the call (they may or may not take the whole time). Once the call is accepted, we'll work together with the Pastor and the NALC to schedule an installation service.

If you have comments or questions please feel free to reach out to any member of the call committee, and please be assured that you are an essential part of this process!

Brief Summary of the Congregational Workshop
(a thorough report will be made available to the congregation)

On August 25 Pastor James Lehmann (Immanuel Lutheran in Flatville) and Pastor Duane Marburger from St. John's Lutheran in Danforth presided over a congregational workshop. There were 35 members in attendance, and after opening with prayer we spent time in groups discussing various passages in scripture, and what those passages tell us about God's call to mission and ministry for the congregation and ordained pastor. Next, we discussed the ministry and life of Prince and Peace in terms of strengths and areas for growth. This led to a time of sharing about our vision for mission in our congregation. For each of these areas many ideas were shared, and it was clear that our congregation has many strengths, but also has areas in which we can grow, and it is our desire to move forward in these areas.

The workshop continued with a focus on issues that help us understand the relationship the congregation had with Pastor Jersild, and how we worked together in ministry. The nature of congregational leadership was also discussed, and helped us understand how congregational leaders are identified and supported, and what some of the expectations are for congregational leaders.

Pastors Lehmann and Marburger led a time of discussion about the core values of the NALC, and how the NALC is congregationally-focused so that churches like Prince of Peace can effectively carry out the Great Commission. We ended with a discussion about the attributes we hope to find in our next pastor, framed in terms of our top ministry needs. The Call Committee will use that overall list to create our top five ministry needs, which will be a part of the congregational profile paperwork we file with the NALC.

We closed with prayer, and we are very appreciative of all the people who attended and prayed for the workshop. Thank you in advance for your continued prayers!

In His Service,
The Prince of Peace Call Committee



Apples of Gold



Titus 2:3-5 talks in detail of older women teaching younger women by words and examples, passing on values from generation to generation.

Apples of Gold (AOG) is a special ministry of senior women mentoring younger women. We will be building friendships and connecting in a deeper way. We will be learning tips for homemaking, decorating and entertaining. A delicious homemade meal will be served to the mentees. The Bible study is especially meaningful as we study practical ways of being Christian women in today's world.

AoG will meet on Wednesday s from 6-8 pm September 5 through October 24. This includes a welcoming tea at church. There are 6 meetings at the home of Pat Camp and a celebration dinner at church that includes husbands.

The mentors are Janice Koss, Jodi Gilliland, June Kopmann, Linda LeRette, Melissa Idleman, Nancy Olson, Pat Camp, Tonya Dunn and Pam Franzen.

This year's mentees are: Nikky Garmon, Stacy Fisher, Katrina Hueber, Bria Cessna, Laurel Emmert, Lea Tranel.

There is always lots of learning, laughter and sometimes even tender tears as we become more confident in our special roles as wives and mothers in the spirit of being followers of Jesus Christ.



Communion Schedule Changes

In order to make better use of our volunteer helpers, the Worship Committee and Council have approved a change in the Communion schedule. Sunday morning Communion will be offered on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays. This still provides a weekly opportunity to receive the sacrament.

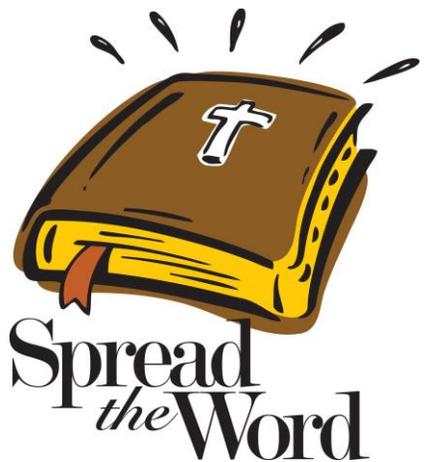
This will be the schedule beginning in September. Please see Pastor Donna if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you

Dear Members of Prince of Peace:

It is because of thoughtful, generous and loving donors such as yourselves that we are able to do the work we do around the globe. Your gifts over the last few years have made a significant difference in the lives of thousands of families. Thank you so much! Your partnership matters!

Gratefully,
Michael Johnson
Donor Advisor





Happenings at the Community Early Learning Center September 2018

Teaching and Learning in Christ

Classroom of the Month -- Classroom of the Month --

In the Blue Horse room, we are very excited to welcome our new students and begin a new school year! In our classroom, ages 4-5 years, we have a very activity-filled month planned. We will begin the Abeka Christian curriculum, starting September 4th, which will include many fun themes to get to know our new friends, along with the academics needed for kindergarten. This month we will be reviewing letters, Aa, Bb, and Cc, numbers 1 and 2, and the colors red, blue, and green. We will also be discussing our families, the community we live in, and our community helpers. We feel very blessed to watch our students learn and grow each day and look forward to a wonderful year together!

Ms. Katie and Ms. Meghan



Miss Ashley made the Employee Honor Roll!

Thank you, Ms. Ashley, for being very dependable and helping us when we need you!
Ashley has been employed with Prince of Peace since April of 2017. She loves working with children every day, learning new ways to connect with them and teach them the best of her ability. Miss Ashley graduated from Armstrong High School and DACC. She currently lives in Fithian with her 3 kids Evan, Ella, & Emilia. Her birthday is on October 6th. She enjoys spending time with her boyfriend Dennis and watching her kids in all their activities in the Oakwood sports.
Her favorite restaurant is El Toro or Red Lobster. She enjoys shopping, spending time with her friends and family and eating out in her spare time.

Thanks again, Miss Ashley!

Ms. Jennifer H. made the Employee Honor Roll!

Ms. Jennifer has been working with us at Prince of Peace since November of 2015. She works in the Red Bear room. She enjoys teaching and playing with the kids. Jennifer graduated from Danville Area Community College in Early Childhood Education in the fall of 2017. Jennifer is recently got married July 7, 2018.

She is a very important part of Prince of Peace!

Ms. Jennifer H.'s Fun Facts:

Ms. Jennifer's birthday is May 1st, her favorite color is pink and her favorite restaurant is the Cheesecake Factory. She enjoys watching Illini basketball. She's from Oakwood and lives in Fithian with her husband. In her free time she enjoys singing, spending time with her husband, family, friends and running.

Thanks again, Jennifer H.!!!

From the Director...

You can never tell when you do an act what the result will be. ---Ella Wheeler

Mark's mom told Mark he was also going to school so that the three-and-a-half-year-old wouldn't fuss when his older brother and sister got on the bus without him. Mark's mom brings him to the care center, he's so excited and ready. He had two pencils in his shirt pocket and *Yertle the Turtle* in his hand.

Seeing his expectations, the toddler teacher decides to make time during the day to coach him on handling the pencil safely. She even shows him how to print "M" for Mark ---a huge, unsteady "M" ---but "M" nonetheless. He knows the Seuss book almost well enough to recite it, so she lets him "read" to her toddler group. She's pleased, sure that he's one happy camper.

Mom arrives and asks, "How was school?" Mark replies, "Didn't learn to read! Didn't learn to write! Never comin' back!"

Because we know kids, we can remain confident in the decision we make, despite unexpected reactions.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Sherry Bivens
Ann Hill

Betty Bohlen
Chris Knipfer

Larry DeWeese
Cheryl Merkel

Abby Immke
Terri Modd

Gerry Windler

Don Alsip; father of Michelle Trame

Adley Bartok; great niece of Dave and Donna Patton

Ryan & Lauren Bigger; friends of Chase & Stephanie Gilliland

Anna Lee Bouslog; mother of Annette Ackerman

Dalton Brownfield; son of Lee Jannusch

Christine Brucker; mother of Stacy Fisher

Linda Bryant; friend of Carlson family

Sandy Cheek; friend of Joyce Kesler

Nick Christians

Ted Collins

Kathy Cross; friend of Mernice Wakefield

David; friend of Brian and Karinsa Moline

Gloria Gehrt; sister of Alan Woods

Roger Grace; friend of Terri Modd and Mary Rolfe

Brittany Harlan; friend of POP

Robert Wakefield; father of Larry Wakefield

Jason Holt; friend of POP members

Elmer Huls; uncle of Anita Wright

Randy Huls; cousin of Anita Wright

Shaun Knipfer; cousin of Susi Huls

Leah McDowell; cousin of Terri Modd & Mary Rolfe

DJ Medlin family; friends of Harper family

Earl & Carole Olson, parents of Debi Johnson

Heidi Ostrowski; niece of Norris Schlueter

John Otloe; uncle of Doug Wendt

Bryan Pinaire; friend of Greg and Sadie Immke

Murelle Plotner; grand-daughter of Paula Plotner

Judy Rahn; mother of Mark Rahn

Linda Rasmussen; mother of Tracy Wilson

Mildred Rincker; mother of Sharan Carmichael

Glenn and Shirley Rothermel; parents of Susan Allen

Josh Stone; co-worker of Susi Huls

Melissa Suits; daughter in law of Lowell & Micki Suits

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

Kambri and Lee Austin	Friends of Ryley Smith and Smith family – Stationed in Vista, CA
Erin Bensyl	Daughter of Fred and Trini Bensyl – Stationed in Fort Hood, TX
Robert Brown	Stationed in California
MiReena Burris	Niece of Mike and Lee Jannusch – Marine Corp, deployed to Middle East
Kendal Coffey	Friend of Steve and Rhonda Littlefield – Stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina
Matthew Collins	Friend of Dale and June Kopmann – Stationed in Fort Campbell, KY
Amy Crane	Grand-daughter of Nettie Henry – Stationed at Crane Naval Base, Indiana
Don Cribbett	Nephew of Connie Bensyl & Donna Weaver – Stationed in Honduras
Lane DeMay	Great nephew of Larry and Mernice Wakefield – In training, Georgia
Daylan Evans	Son of Sara (Evans) & Travis Baker – Stationed at Quantico, Virginia
Tyler Foster	Friend of Steve and Leslie Froeschl – Stationed at Cannon AFB, NM
Matthew Giertz	Brother of Tonya Dunn – Stationed at Charleston, WV
Traverse Jarman	Nephew of Melissa Idleman – Stationed at Fort Bliss, El Paso, TX
Jesus Olmedo	Nephew of Miguel Lucio – Stationed in California
Jose Orozco	Nephew of Miguel Lucio – In training for the Marine Corp
Rowdy Randall	Friend of Jared Hill and Terry Hill – In training at San Diego, CA
Josh Reynolds	Nephew of Mike and Lee Jannusch – Stationed at Whiteman AFB, MO
Michael Scott	Friend of Swinford family – Stationed at AFB in Minot, ND
Dyllan Trautmann	Grandson of Gerald and Darlene Sappenfield – Stationed at AFB in Eglin, Florida