



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



NALC
North American Lutheran Church

WWW.POPSTJOE.COM

February 2019

Serving at Prince of Peace

Ministers:

All Members

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, 10:15-11:15 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.



Pastor's Article for February

The Epiphany season is a long one this year! We have a long stretch of seven Sundays between Christmas and Ash Wednesday, which marks the start of Lent.

Like many pastors, I have a file full of newsletter ideas related to Christmas, and plenty that have to do with Lent. Epiphany, however, is another story. Once we get past the Magi worshipping the infant Jesus, the boy Jesus in the Temple and the Baptism of Jesus at the Jordan, I am stuck! How can we view Epiphany itself as a gift?

Perhaps, after all the rush and hubbub leading up to Christmas we can use some time to pursue the journey of discipleship and prepare for Lenten devotion. That can happen in our lives as individuals and as a congregation. Some suggestions:

- 1) Take a journey through some book of the Bible. One of the Gospels, yes. But perhaps a letter of Paul or even one of the Old Testament books you have not checked out in a while. Bask in the Word of God.
- 2) Worship. One of the pastors at text study group where we were considering Luke 4: 14 – 21, pointed out that the text states “And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read.” We gloss over this so often – and yet, here is our Lord, spotless and sinless Lamb of God – and his life was built around regular worship. We should not be tempted to skip worship simply because it is not one of the high seasons of the year. Our Epiphany journey, like the entire Christian life, is built around worship of the Lord and regular participation in the Eucharist.
- 3) Engage in devotional reading. Find a good book on Christian themes and spend some time in it. You can grab one of the devotional booklets available at church and use it as a daily stimulus. We always seem to have extras!
- 4) Reach out to do something for someone else. Charity work abounds at the holiday season. How about extending that urge to works of goodwill into February (and beyond)?

These are just a few suggestions, but I urge you, above all else, to be alert to signs of God's presence and work in this world and in our lives. That is what “epiphany” means – a dawning, or a new awareness of something that is occurring --- and we need to be aware of God's presence in our world. This season of darkness and dormancy leads to the renewal and new life of Spring. It is coming!

Ash Wednesday Worship

Plan to join us for the start of Lent at Prince of Peace on Wednesday, March 6, at 7 p.m. As we begin the Lenten journey of repentance and devotion, we meet the Communion table and hear the call to seek God's will for us. The opportunity for the Imposition of Ashes, an ancient tradition of the church, is a focal point of the service. Please join us.

Lenten Midweek Worship

This year Prince of Peace will, once again, join with our neighboring NALC congregations for a Lenten "Round Robin," with a different pastor visiting us to lead worship and preach every week. Services will be Wednesday at 7, preceded by a Soup Supper at _____. The theme of our services this year will be "Great Hymns for Lent and Holy Week." Each pastor has selected and will focus on a hymn that focuses on Lenten themes and/or events. Please join us!

WOMEN'S COFFEE AND PRAYER



Need a midweek dose of powerful prayer? How about support from other women who are ready to listen?

All women are invited to Geschenk Coffee and Tea Haus, 228 East Lincoln, in St. Joseph, on Wednesdays at 7 AM. Each week

we'll hear a word of scripture, pray together and inspire one another for a new day -- all while sharing delicious morning coffee or tea -- and you'll still be in time for work or school! See you there!



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.

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE:

Pastor Donna visits hospitalized and homebound members of our congregation on a regular basis, and is available at all times to meet with you. Monday is her designated day off, but she is always available in case of emergency. If you know of anyone who is hospitalized or who needs help, please let Pastor Donna know by calling the church office at 469-7422.



POPS PLUS

EVENTS

CALENDAR 2019

POPs PLUS is a friendly group of older Prince of Peace members who get together monthly for fellowship, good food, and interesting activities. All are welcome and encouraged to come and enjoy our nice gatherings! Below is a list of people who have volunteered to plan POPS PLUS events in 2019. You'll notice that we still have a couple months open! If you'd like to sign up to plan an event in February or July, please call Lori at the church office (469-7422) today and let her know!

JANUARY: Green

FEBRUARY: Green

MARCH: Guzy/Hastings/Modd (movie/pizza)

APRIL: Carmichael

MAY: Sappenfield

JUNE: Taeger

JULY:

AUGUST: Weaver

SEPTEMBER: LeRette

OCTOBER: Carlson

NOVEMBER: Green/Sappenfield

POPS PLUS

We will be gathering for breakfast at **Urbana Gardens** on **February 21st at 9AM**.

Please sign up if you are able to join us. The sheets have been posted on the bulletin boards.

Come join us for good food and fellowship!



We are in need of volunteers for Meals on Wheels!

Please sign up to serve if you are able. The Meals on Wheels sign up is located on the easel in the Narthex. It generally takes only 30 minutes to deliver the meals and is every Monday for the month you sign up to serve. If you have any questions, please call Lori at 469-7422.



The *Altar Flower Sign up sheet for 2019* has been posted in the Narthex. Flowers are \$20 per vase, if you are interested in signing up.

“EAT, PRAY, CARDS” FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

In February, our “Eat, Pray, Cards” group will meet twice, on **Wednesday February 13th**, and **Wednesday February 27th**. All are invited to come! We meet in the newly revamped Sunday School room for a light brunch, a brief devotion, and a highly competitive round of cards. We start at 10:00 a.m. Hope to see you there!

High School Students

All 9th-12th-grade students are welcome to join us for our Weekly Youth Group Gathering in the High School Youth Room from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. We serve supper every week, play a game, and dig into God's Word during our lesson time.

Please consider serving our youth by preparing supper for one of these nights. The cost of the meal will be covered by the church but we need some extra hands to help make the meals. See Shane to sign up or if you have any more questions.

Confirmation

On **February 24th**, the **Confirmation** class will be bouncing off the trampolines at **Elevate Trampoline Park in Champaign** instead of bouncing off the walls during class time! We will **meet in the High School Youth Room for a shared lunch** before we head out in the vans. Please bring **\$24 to cover the cost of 2 hours of jump time** and their special grippy socks. If you already have their grippy socks then you will receive a discount at the counter. We will be leaving the church at **Noon and returning at roughly 2:30 PM**. Feel free to **invite your friends!** Make sure to sign a waiver on their website, www.elevatechampaign.com.

POP 4/5/6

In February we will be having our Annual Lock-In on **Saturday, February 9th at 6:00 PM to Sunday, February 10th at 7:30 AM**.

We will go to **Skateland** right after everyone gets there and get settled in on Saturday. The cost will be \$15 per person including the admission fee, skate rental, and one game of laser tag. Kids can play more laser tag for \$5 per person per game. Please bring the \$15 to Shane at the start of the night. You may bring a game to play together and please bring sleeping gear and a snack to share. We will provide a cereal breakfast for the kids on Sunday morning.

OFFERING ENVELOPES:

Your 2019 offering envelopes are ready to be picked up in the narthex. Saturday worshippers will be in east hall. If you did not find any with your name and you would like a set, please contact the church office. (I may have accidentally missed you.)

Ushers

We need ushers through the end of the year. If you are interested, please contact Dwayne Gilliland for Sunday's and Lori or Pastor for Saturday evening services. Thank you!



The Fellowship Committee would like to invite the congregation to another movie night. We will be watching the movie **War Room**.

Come enjoy an evening watching the movie and eating popcorn.

Movie: War Room

Date: 2/17/2019

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Main Sanctuary

Childcare will be provided.



Happenings at the Community Early Learning Center

Teaching and Learning in Christ

January

Ms. Brenda made the Employee Honor Roll!

Ms. Brenda is a floater teacher. She started with us here in August of 2018. She enjoys sharing new experiences with the children and watching their reactions to learning new things.

She is a very important part of Prince of Peace!

Ms. Brenda's Fun Facts:

Ms. Brenda's birthday is on November 8th. She is from Champaign, and now lives in Savoy. Ms. Brenda has a son named Chris who is the Pastor of New Life Church of Cupertino, California. He has two children: Brayden, age 7 and Atienza, age 5. His wife, Kim, is a preschool teacher who also volunteers at the local hospital and helps Chris out at their Church. ☺

Ms. Brenda's favorite color is yellow and her favorite place to eat is Panera Bread. Her most favorite thing to do is travel. She also likes to quilt bags, wall hangings and lap quilts. Her favorite sports team is the Denver Broncos.

Be sure to tell Ms. Brenda, "Thank you!", when you see her!

Ms. Katie made the Employee Honor Roll!

Ms. Katie is the head teacher in the Blue Horse Room. Her favorite part of working here is helping the children learn and grow each day. She is a very important part of Prince of Peace!

Ms. Katie's Fun Facts:

Ms. Katie's birthday is on February 7th and has been employed at PoPCELC since December of 2016.

She is originally from Monticello and currently lives in St. Joseph with Steven, her husband, who she has been married to since 2014. They will be adding to their family as they are expecting their first baby in February!! Her favorite colors are pink and teal. She enjoys watching Cardinals baseball and her favorite restaurant is Seven Saints. She enjoys reading, traveling, coffee and shopping.

She loves all the wonderful kids and families here and says everyone has been so welcoming since she started here.

Be sure to congratulate Ms. Katie when you see her!

Director: Diane Williams

popcelldirector@comcast.net

Assistant Director: Jennifer Nirider

popcelcad@outlook.com



Happenings at the Community Early Learning Center February 2019

Teaching and Learning in Christ

Classroom of the Month -- Purple Cat Room

February is a time to talk about "love". We began by asking the 3 and 4 year olds what they think love is. Here is love through the eyes of a child.

Love is:

A Hug, A Kiss, Giving someone flowers

Giving grandma a note with a heart

Getting a new toy, Giving someone 5 new toys

And when it all comes down to it, one child said, "A hug is the perfect thing!"

While using love as the theme of the month, we will also work on the letters S, T, U, and V. Look at a variety of shapes and review our numbers 1-15.

Be sure to check our bulletin board in the office for some sweet bumble bees during the month.

Have a PURRRRFECTLY lovely Valentine's Day!

Ms Penny & Ms Jody

Ms. Paula made the Employee Honor Roll!

Ms. Paula is the one of the teachers in the Green Frog room. This January Paula celebrated her 9-year anniversary of teaching here at Prince of Peace. Paula loves talking with the kids about things going on in their lives every day.

She is a very important part of Prince of Peace!

Ms. Paula's Fun Facts:

Ms. Paula's birthday is on December 4th. She is from Oakwood and continues to live there. She has been married to her husband, Jerry, for 29 years. They have 2 sons, Austin who is 26, and Cameron who is 20. Austin got married in 2016, so she's recently gained a daughter-in-law also. Cameron will be getting married in March of 2019.

Her favorite color is purple and her favorite place to eat is Cracker Barrel. Paula is quite the hockey fanatic and loves the Chicago Blackhawks. She is also involved with the Danville Dashers hockey team. She also enjoys camping, reading, and spending time with her family.

Her favorite part about her job is seeing how much the children learn and grow from August when they enter the classroom to the next August as they head off to kindergarten. She loves the children, families, and the people she gets to work with. ☺

Be sure to tell Ms. Paula "Thank you!" when you see her!

Ms. Jennifer N. made the Employee Honor Roll!

Ms. Jennifer has been working at Prince of Peace since October 2016. Her favorite part of working here is being with all the children. She loves coming in each morning and having the children run to give her hugs. She is a very important part of Prince of Peace!

Ms. Jennifer's Fun Facts:

Ms. Jennifer's birthday is on August 12th. She is from Homer and moved back there a few years ago, when she bought a house there. Her favorite color is blue and her favorite sports team is the Dallas Cowboys. Her favorite places to eat are Olive Garden and El Toro. She and her husband Shane live in Homer with their dog Mia. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, reading, and hiking at nature parks on vacation.

Jennifer enjoys having the opportunity to work at a larger center and learn from teachers who have worked in many different settings. She appreciates how generous the parents are to the staff.

Be sure to tell Ms. Jennifer "Thank you!" when you see her!

FROM THE DIRECTOR--- Nobody ever measured, not even poets, how much the heart can hold. --- Zelda Fitzgerald

Paul, a first grader, comes to Maria's house after school, except on Thursdays when he attends speech therapy sessions.

Last week, Paul's mom told Maria that the Thursday session was canceled. "At home he doesn't stutter or lisp anymore," she said, "but his teacher says it still happens in reading class. Something's strange about this."

On Thursday Paul is downcast about the cancellation so Maria has a chance to explore what is happening. She says, "Paul, I'm sorry you're sad about being here."

"Oh, I'm not sad about that." Paul exclaims. "I'm sad that I won't get to see Miss Riley."

"But aren't you glad that soon you won't need the speech class?" Maria asks.

"I'll always need it, because I'm never going to read, 'See Spot jump. See Jane run,'" he says, clearly pronouncing each word.

"Because if I say 'Th-th-th-ee Spot th-th-th-jump. Th-th-th-ee Jane run,' I get to go to Miss Riley's class."

Children let you into their hearts because they know you treasure the immeasurable love you find flourishing there.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Sherry Bivens
Terri Herbst
Dan Medrow

Norbert Franzen
Abby Immke
Cheryl Merkel

Henry Fruhling
Chris Knipfer

Bev Goldenstein
Tom Long

Sandy Beckman; aunt of Greg Mills
Anna Lee Bouslog; mother of Annette Ackerman
Dalton Brownfield; son of Lee Jannusch
Christine Brucker; mother of Stacy Fisher
Rodney Buhr
Jerry Cencula; uncle of Nichole Jones
Sandy Cheek; friend of Joyce Kesler
Nick Christians
Ted Collins
Kathy Cross; friend of Mernice Wakefield
David; friend of Brian and Karinsa Moline
Luke Fisher; friend of Donna Guzy
Sherri Fisher; friend of Donna Guzy
Gloria Gehrt; sister of Alan Woods
Stacy Goetting; sister of Todd Goetting
Roger Grace; friend of Terri Modd and Mary Rolfe
Brittany Harlan; friend of POP

Logan Kirby; friend of POP members
Sally Lee; cousin of Becky Mills
Ronnie Lewis; friend of Lowell and Micki Suits
Leah McDowell; cousin of Terri Modd & Mary Rolfe
Marcia Mennenga; sister in law of Mernice Wakefield
Drew Meece; cousin of Katelynn Masengale
Kristy Miller; friend of Wendt family
Earl & Carole Olson, parents of Debi Johnson
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
Lisa Sedivy; friend of Donna Guzy
Tim and Amy Short
Josh Stone; co-worker of Susi Huls
Grace Vassar; niece of Dwayne and Jodi Gilliland
Robert Wakefield; father of Larry Wakefield
Anna Wentzloff

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
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 – Stationed at Fort Benning, 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
Chris Meece	Uncle of Katelynn Masengale – Stationed in Fort Riley, Kansas
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 – Stationed at Camp LEJUENE, NC
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

Puzzle!

Read the Old Testament book of Ruth,
which is a great love story. Then search for
the words below, which are all from that book.

B A W O N N I W S L S Z D R V
D E B O T B A O M H X Q A I R
X W T Q Y R L M C X G G V O P
N A A H A R V E S T E B I Z B
P O V M L S L A D N A S D N B
O G V N Z E R F I R I L S B F
N A N O M U H V L M M K S E J
L G O I M D L E O C F G H I J
C L L L H L Y A M B H L O Y A
E E H I F S N A E T F R B O D
S A A K F B E G U G P W E P S
N N M W X E V R R A A R M M J
E I G D J U D A H J E E W S G
A N X P E M Z I S T W K V H O
W G L H V I Z N U C I T V H K

Barley, Bethlehem, Boaz, David, Elimelech, Gleaning, Grain,
Harvest, Jesse, Judah, Kilion, Kinsman, Mahlon, Mara, Moab,
Naomi, Obed, Orpah, Ruth, Sandals, Threshing, Vinegar, Winnow